

Will not they rather be turned to some other country, to some other condition under which they can achieve that which they thought they had achieved when they landed on our shores? I do not see how it can be otherwise than that we have turned back in the minds of these people that course of sentiment that was bringing them on and on and building into them the ideal of Canadian citizenship. We are doing what we can to prevent them from ever adopting our ideals and becoming citizens with us in this country.

The inspiration of the Government is being well taken up by those who are supporting them throughout the country. I read in this morning's paper a despatch from Regina which is as follows:

Regina, Sask., Sept. 13.—A deputation of army and navy veterans has been appointed to go to Prussia, Saskatchewan, and demand that the Teutonic names of streets, such as Kaiser Wilhelm and Hanover, be changed to those of more British origin.

It can only be expected that the lead given by the Government will be followed by their supporters and that a course will be taken in these prairie provinces, such as has been taken in the provinces of Ontario and Quebec. In the Prairie West we have had no collisions of any kind whatever, and our people have lived in harmony and amity, we now see introduced there, as a result of this legislation, and as a result of the policy of the Government, the same conditions that have prevailed in Ontario and Quebec.

I say that this Government is committing a crime against Canada in the legislation that is now before the House, a crime the effect of which may be more far-reaching than any man can now see. And this legislation is being introduced by a Government which has been proclaiming far and wide for the past four or five months that it desired to govern Canada on non-partisan lines, that it desired a union government. And it is giving evidence of its good faith in desiring that Canada should have a union government in which there should be no parties and no divisions, where everybody should be united, shoulder to shoulder in war effort, by introducing a measure such as was never before introduced in the Parliament of Canada as a partisan measure; it is introducing a measure that goes far beyond the question of political partisanship to the question of disfranchising, decitizenizing, tens of thousands of the people of the country.

And this is the Government that wanted honest Liberals to take share with it in ad-

[Mr. Oliver.]

ministering the affairs of Canada! We have heard across the floor of the House of the mutual bargainings between so-called Liberals on this side and members of the Government on that, the bargainings as to the exchange of principle for place, in the name of patriotism, in the name of honour, in the name of loyalty. Well, it is a long time since the man who was traitor to his principles had honour with the people. I think the same attitude of the public mind that prevailed 1,900 years ago and that has been handed down through all those centuries to the present time, will still regard the crime of Judas as the climax of villany.

Mr. G. W. KYTE (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, in the speech with which the Secretary of State (Mr. Meighen) presented this Bill to the House, he endeavoured to argue for its justification out of the precedent of similar legislation in Australia. I quote from his speech (Hansard, page 5725):

There has not occurred as yet in any great country engaged in this struggle of unprecedented dimensions a general election. Where democracy governs nations in this war, it has not as yet left to individualism, by means of the ballot, the determination of the conduct of the war, save in one country alone. That country is Australia. When they were, in Australia, facing a situation such as we face to-day, but by no means as aggravated as ours, they prepared by legislation for the contest along lines similar to those of this Bill. They, however, disqualified for the war-time election all of their citizens who were of alien enemy birth, no matter how long they had been in Australia or how long they had been naturalized. This Bill does not go that far.

I endeavoured to get a copy of the Australian Act which was cited by the Secretary of State but have been unable to do so.

Mr. MEIGHEN: I think the only copy in Canada is in the possession of Mr. O'Connor, where the hon. gentleman may see it.

Mr. KYTE: I sought that Act indirectly from Mr. O'Connor. A gentleman who has something to do with the custody of documents in this House told me that he applied to Mr. O'Connor and that Mr. O'Connor told him he had not it. I applied at the office of the Secretary of State to-day. His secretary was good enough to say to me that if he could get his hands upon it he would let me have it, but I have not yet received the copy and I am therefore unable to argue from the text of the Australian legislation whether or not this House of Commons is justified in