

ince of Ontario at the present time, and these hon. gentlemen know that if they stood up and declared that the statements I am going to read are untrue they will be contradicted by the others and it becomes a question of veracity. The hon. member for Russell will not do it, because I know him too well and he is too shrewd for that. Let us take the statement of one of those gentlemen, the hon. member for Glengarry (Mr. McMillan).

We came up here from Ottawa expecting that we might give our friends some information, but we find that instead of giving information, we have been getting it. I never was more surprised in my life than to hear what we have listened to so far this afternoon. We were given to understand that the whole province of Ontario was for conscription. Now we find that we were misled.

Candidate Forester: You should have consulted us.

Mr. McMillan: Yes; I admit that. I tell you frankly that if we had known some time ago what we know to-day, several of us would not have voted the way we did.

They were all voting to save their own necks and every one knows it, including the hon. member for Carleton, N.B. (Mr. Carvell). The hon. member for Moosejaw (Mr. Knowles) knows it as well as I do. Let us go on a little farther.

We thought the people were all in favour of conscription, but, evidently, that is far from the fact. I may say that as I have a large French element in my community, and also a large body of Scotch electors, I voted for the referendum, and also for the Bill, so as to try and not offend either, but again, I say frankly, if I had known what we have heard this afternoon, my vote would have been given differently.

Three cheers for political humbug! Could you imagine that a man would stand up and have the effrontery that the hon. member for Glengarry had when he made that statement? The statement is true and no hon. gentleman opposite will deny it. Well, now, let us have another one. We heard to-night, with all the force that he is capable of putting into his utterances, from the hon. member for South Renfrew (Mr. Graham). "I stood up in this House and voted for conscription, I advocated it on principle and I will advocate it again on principle." What did the hon. member for South Renfrew say at that meeting?

Referring to some of the criticism offered, Mr. Graham remarked that "Whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth". In explanation of his own position, Mr. Graham said he had voted and acted as he did with the knowledge and approval of his leader.

Sir, this was the game: the Laurier anti-conscription cry for Quebec and the Graham cry of conscription for Ontario, and the hon. member for South Renfrew states that

[Mr. W. H. Bennett.]

deliberately, before he voted and spoke in that way, he had the thorough approval of his leader to do it. I am going to read something that will at least cause a little spirit of joy to my friend from Edmonton (Mr. Oliver). The hon. member for Edmonton has made sundry and divers remarks in the House that would tend to show that he was not altogether satisfied with the conscriptionists on that side, and I want him to know that he had the sympathy of one of the candidates, Mr. Hyslop from Huron, because Mr. Hyslop said:

I think that the situation brought about is a most deplorable one. I do not know how they got into it, but the opinion in our part of the country is that they must have been soft-headed to allow themselves to take the attitude they did.

Where is the average elector in Ontario and in this Dominion to-day, when he sees this flim flam game being played by these gentlemen from one end of this Dominion to the other—as the hon. member for Moosejaw (Mr. Knowles) said, in the vain endeavour to save their own necks? Here is what one gentleman said:

Win-the-war party? This is not a win-the-war party. Every gentleman says here the whole aim is to win the election. That is the policy of the party.

There was a candidate from North Essex who said:

Like other gentlemen who have spoken, I regret the diversity of opinion that exists, and I am confused on account of it. In fact, for a month or more past I have been like Eliza in "Uncle Tom's Cabin," floating along, jumping from one cake of ice to another, and now I want to strike shore somewhere, and I want to land soon.

Not one gentleman opposite has dared to make a denial of these matters, and the reason they will not deny these statements is that there are a number of these candidates, and if they dared to make denial some of the candidates would say: For the love of Heaven, what kind of men are these men when they deny what they said in open meeting? Why are these gentlemen down upon the franchise Bill? The reason is, because they find that where they expected a win on an appeal to the passion of Germans and Austrians in the Northwest, they are not going to win. I looked up the returns in the last election, and I find that in the riding of Humboldt, where the present member (Mr. Neely) had a majority of 4,218, at some of the polls there were overwhelming majorities for the Liberal candidate. I shall give some examples, placing the figures for the Liberal candidate first in each case: 46—0, 36—0, 40—2, 72—2,