

Vimy Ridge on the hills of Surrey for London cinematograph companies, and that sixteen or nineteen soldiers were killed during the enactment of this farce. (A voice, "Horror.") And this is what Ottawa calls "Winning the War." (Applause.) And while 20,000 troops that had been in training for nine months were thus engaged, men with three and four wound stripes were being returned to the front lines in France direct from English hospitals. These men conversed with me while embarking at Victoria Station, London. ("Shame.")

OFFICIAL DISCREPANCIES.

It might also be noted in this connection that on November 30th, 1917, General Mewburn made the official announcement that there were only 35,000 troops available and in training as reinforcements in Great Britain, and yet within three weeks from that date 104,000 military ballots were polled in the elections. Either somebody was economical of the truth in the first case, or the election frauds were vastly greater than our meagre evidence so far establishes. (Applause.)

THE NIGGER IN THE WOODPILE.

There were other than patriotic reasons why some parties were so insistent upon beating the drum, waving the flag and shouting, "Win the War." There were colossal financial profits at stake. The Borden Government had secured authority from Parliament to negotiate for the possession of the Canadian Northern Railway. There was no hurry. Time might possibly improve Sir William Mackenzie and Sir Donald Mann's position. The war had given them a severe blow financially. The railway would not stop running, and its obligations were largely abroad. There were many millions of securities in London upon which dividends had not been paid. The English investor soon gets panicky. It needed but little to make him more so. This, a syndicate of financial cormorants, succeeded in doing. The result was a still further decline, followed by an option being secured at low figures for the purchase of these securities.

THE PLUNDERERS AT OTTAWA.

The scene then changed to Canada. If the Ottawa Government would take possession of the Canadian Northern these depreciated securities would go to par, and the holders would amass colossal fortunes. But this required time. Sir Wilfrid Laurier was asked to consent to the extension of the life of Parliament for six months. This was refused. Then the only hope of these modern political Dick Turpins was to help Borden with a Union Government. The public were beguiled with the slogan, "Win the War" and "Down with the French-Canadians," and the prayers of the Protestant churches were invoked to keep the political fervor at white heat. The Union Government took over the way, assuming responsibility for Canadian Northern securities, it is said, to well on to two hundred millions of dollars, and will expend sixty millions more in improving the line.

HOW NEAR TO HIGHWAY ROBBERY.

In the meantime the Dick Turpins, who came from London, it is alleged, cleared a profit on the railway securities of forty or fifty million dollars. I don't know who these political highway robbers are, but their personality and responsibility must be discovered no matter at what cost. (Applause.)

PURE RELIGION AND UNDEFINED IS TO—

I wonder what must be the inner thoughts of the hundreds of clergymen in this country who, on Sunday, December 16, so fervently implored