

The candidate who removed his ambition from the path of Hon. Wesley Rowell's progress to an Ontario seat in Parliament represents another form of patriotic service, or patriotic endeavour, to quote the now immortal words of Sir Robert Borden.

The soldier who gives up both legs and an earning power of \$200 or \$250 per month for his country's sake will be requited with a pension of \$600 or \$700 per annum.

The candidate who gives up a parliamentary nomination for Hon. Wesley Rowell's sake is requited with a life interest in a seat in the Senate. That life interest has a capital value of \$50,000. An official statement carries the authority of Sir Robert Borden into a declaration that a senatorship worth \$2,500 per annum is the modest reward of Hon. R. A. Mulholland's patriotic endeavours.

If every Canadian who can equal or surpass Mr. Mulholland's creditable record of "patriotic endeavour" is to go to the Senate, the home of that august assembly will soon be overcrowded worse than a Toronto street car around 6 p.m. If a \$50,000 senatorship illustrates Sir Robert Borden's idea of a scant reward for Hon. R. A. Mulholland's "patriotic endeavours," the "patriotic endeavours" of the C.P.R. engineer and hundreds and thousands of other Canadian soldiers is the marble of true and noble sacrifice. That marble is spoiled with the mud of Sir Robert Borden's words of excuse for the traffic in senatorships that is still being carried on at Ottawa.

As you will observe, Sir, the Toronto Telegram takes no stock in the Pharisaic pretense of the hon. member for Durham that patronage has been abolished. Neither do I; neither does any sane man who has any knowledge of the crimes for which patronage is responsible in connection with the office of the Director of Public Information; with the office of the Food Board, and its staff of nearly one hundred highly-paid employees; and with the office of the Central Appeal Judge, under the Military Service Act, and its staff of nearly seventy highly-paid employees. Later on, there will be occasion to ventilate these crimes, and I will not dwell on them now.

But reprehensible as were the statements with which I have already dealt in the hon. gentleman's North Bay speech, they were mild and inoffensive, indeed, when compared with his slanderous and unjustifiable attack on the members of the religious orders who came from France to Canada and who were here at the outbreak of the war. Let me devote a few minutes to an analysis of the statements made by him in that same speech in regard to these men. After he had denounced the attitude of the Quebec Nationalists towards the war, the hon. member for Durham said:

In this attitude they were undoubtedly encouraged and abetted by the members of the religious orders from France who found an asylum in Canada, and used that asylum to undermine Canada's strength in the struggle.

This atrocious statement was made without a syllable of truth to support it. When challenged for proof, the hon. gentleman, after the manner of the tribe of Ananias, remained silent. On December 15, 1917, The Catholic Record of London publicly challenged the hon. member for Durham to bring forward a shadow of proof for his assertion; the hon. gentleman did not respond. At a later date this challenge was repeated by The Catholic Register of Toronto; but again the hon. gentleman remained silent. The fact that his statement in its foulness and falsehood was adopted and repeated by Mr. Stewart Lyon, of The Toronto Globe, does not in any degree mitigate the offence of the hon. gentleman for having gratuitously slandered both the living and the dead. Neither the hon. member for Durham nor Mr. Lyon could produce any proof, because proof there was none.

Not satisfied with one slander, the hon. gentleman uttered another when he thus further referred to the French religious in Canada:

It is a misfortune that they did not follow the example of the priests of the Catholic church in France, who threw themselves into the struggle of their people to preserve their national existence.

In these words the hon. member for Durham pictured the French members of the religious orders as remaining in Canada and shirking their duty to France. That statement, Sir, is even more wickedly untrue than the former one. The facts were available to the hon. gentleman as they were to any other person who would seek them; but the facts would not suit the hon. gentleman's purpose, and so he coolly ignored them. Now it is my intention to give the facts to the House and to the country, so that the truth may be known about a body of men whose courage, devotion to duty and self-sacrifice in the present war stamp them as worthy to follow in the footsteps of that noble band of French missionaries who first made this land known to Europe and blazed the way for its colonization and development.

As a result of inquiries instituted both in Canada and overseas, I have been favoured with authentic statements giving in detail full particulars about the French religious orders who were wantonly slandered by the hon. member for Durham. It would unduly burden the record, and take up too much time if I were to place all the

9 p.m. details on Hansard, and for these reasons I shall summarize my information, and mention only a few names of the hundreds that