

thousands of people who had been granted British citizenship and never did anything to deserve such a downfall.

After all, Mr. Speaker, if it is our wish that Canada pass successfully through that transitional period between war and peace, if it is our wish that all the good purposes of the Government, all their good measures be efficiently carried out, let us try to put into practice those noble utterances of the hon. member from Thunder Bay and Rainy River (Mr. Manion) delivered in this House the other day: "I am deeply convinced that the establishment of a real entente cordiale in this country should be the desire of all true lovers of Canada. The man, Sir, whether he be a French-speaking Canadian or an English-speaking Canadian, whether he be a Catholic or a Protestant, who wilfully fosters antagonism of race and creed in this country is neither a true friend nor a loyal citizen of the land we love."

Those are words that should ring into the ears of all those who had a hand in a criminal and condemned policy, in a policy that is very aptly described in a pamphlet which the Government had brought in for their electoral campaign, and which is entitled: "Language oppression in the German Empire;" but influential members of the ministry prevented its distribution because it expounded a principle which was a menace to some provincial governments.

Those are words which I take as my own for they express the most intimate conviction of every hon. member of the House, and the Government may rely upon our entire co-operation in all measures they take to establish such an entente cordiale. Besides, that is the foundation of the prosperity and power of our magnificent country, and it should be the first thought of all rulers.

Mr. PELLETIER (Continuing in English): If I may be allowed, Mr. Speaker, to say a few words in English, there are a few points that I wish to take up.

The member for Springfield (Mr. Richardson) says that he does not believe in following leaders or parties. I wonder what happened to him at the last session of Parliament when he offered a motion by way of amendment to the resolution proposed with regard to titles, suggesting that no titles of any class or kind should be granted to domiciled Canadians—and then refused to vote for it. The hon. member subsequently stated:

When I proposed this amendment I had no conception that it was a question which in any way might precipitate a crisis in the country.

[Mr. Pelletier.]

I had no conception that the Prime Minister of this country would stake the existence of the Government on this issue. I was elected as a supporter of the Union Government, and I would much prefer to resign my seat here tonight than to jeopardize the existence of the Government. In my parliamentary experience in the old days I understood that when a private member introduced a motion, members of the House on both sides were perfectly free to vote for or against it, according to how it appealed to them.

Mr. Speaker, when a member makes a motion or offers an amendment and has not the courage to vote for his own motion, what can we expect?

The hon. gentleman stated that he did not believe in following leaders or parties. He said further that he thought he was too good to be in this world after a conversation he had had with a political leader of his. If he is too good to live in this world, he is very unfortunate. According to his own statement this evening, the Liberal party has withdrawn communion from him. It would appear that the few remarks made by the Prime Minister prior to the taking of the vote on the question of titles resulted in the courage of his convictions being taken away from the member for Springfield.

The member for Frontenac (Mr. Edwards) said on Thursday evening last in the course of his remarks that defaulters under the Military Service Act should not be sent to prison, or words to that effect. Let me say, Mr. Speaker, that in many cases the fact that boys did not report for duty was due to their receiving their notices after the day they were summoned to report. In other cases, sons of farmers were under the impression that they were exempt from military service for a certain time and continued their labour on the farm, thus helping the country by producing and helping to feed our soldiers and those at home. And I, Mr. Speaker, like the member for Frontenac, do not believe in imposing heavy fines on such men. In many cases the fine cannot be paid, and the defaulter must take the jail path, which is not a royal one by any means. I believe this policy to be a grave mistake, because these defaulters have shown no criminal instinct, and by sending them to jail you may make criminals of them, even though they be honest men, and blot their careers forever. I demand an amnesty for the young man who was on the farm and was a good soldier in producing and helping to feed the Allies, but who did not understand the law that even lawyers did not understand. If you punish any one, punish the profiteers, whose only ambition was to accumulate wealth and who did not care a continental how long