

Hon. Mr. CLORAN: Is that true? Is all that true?

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: The newspaper will be produced which contains those instructions; I have seen it. The instance of which I have been speaking related to an electoral division with which I am in close contact, because it is in my own senatorial division. Honourable gentlemen from the West or from the East, may not know that we have each our own senatorial division in the province of Quebec. The incident took place in the centre of my own district.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN: Then it is true.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: And yet, in spite of all that and the loose work and sometimes the fine work which was carried on by very many enumerators throughout the country, and notwithstanding that thousands of electors were disfranchised, the Government is in a minority in the country, and so is conscription, if the votes of 500,000 hand-picked women are deducted. The Government received a total of 1,048,570 votes. The Opposition got 759,867. It may surprise my honourable friends to learn that there were more votes polled against the Government in Ontario than in Quebec. There were polled against the Government and against conscription in Ontario 268,218 votes, and in Quebec 243,471 votes. Outside of Quebec 516,396 votes were cast against the Government and against conscription.

The Mail and Empire gives the total women vote that was polled at the last election as, in round figures, 500,000. If, as is most likely, they voted like the soldiers and in the same proportions, the Government got 90 per cent or 450,000 of those votes.

Hon. Mr. SHARPE: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: If from the Government vote, amounting to 1,048,570, these 450,000 votes are deducted, the Government secured for itself and for conscription, from the regular male vote, 598,570. If we likewise deduct 10 per cent, or 50,000 of the women's votes from the 759,867 given to the Opposition, the Opposition remain with a total vote of 709,867 votes against the Government and against conscription, and the Government has 598,570, or is in a minority of 111,297. My honourable friend on the other side said, "Hear, hear," when I mentioned that 450,000 of the women voted for them.

Hon. Mr. GORDON: Sensible women.

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Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: Well, as I said, they had been hand-picked. I hope that when the Female Suffrage Bill is brought before Parliament we shall find that the women of Canada are to be enfranchised on the same basis as are the men and that they will not first be asked, as the Government through its friends in Toronto did ask them, before the Franchise Act was introduced last session, whether they are favourable to the Government or not.

Are we not justified in stating that we have to-day not a de jure but a de facto Government before us? This is a situation which we must face. This de facto Government carries on the affairs of the country, and, to reassure my honourable friends and allay their fears, let me tell them that we will not rebel. We will endeavour, as a loyal Opposition, to co-operate in the best possible legislation in the interests of the country. My honourable friend the leader of the Government is witness to the fact that from 1914 to the end of last year, so far as I am concerned, and so far as the members on this side of the House are concerned, never were our voices raised in opposition to any war measure. We gave our entire approval to all war measures to help the cause of the Allies, the sacred cause of democracy. However, I have cited those figures in order to help my honourable friend the leader of the Government to continue to practise that virtue of modesty for which he is noted and to let him feel that there is not an overwhelming majority in the country who approve of the late Government as he is wont to believe. Quite the contrary. No, the late Government was not approved at all, for when it was attacked I have heard representatives of the late phalanx which formed the bulk of the Government support say: "But there is no Tory Government; why should we discuss the past? It is now a Union Government. Let us look forward and not backward."

My honourable friend (Hon. Sir James Loughheed) has made a statement which I cannot allow to pass, because it is not in conformity with my own view, and sincerity must be the first virtue of a public man. He has stated that if Canada had been a separate entity, an independent country, it would have been in this war just as it is to-day; that we are not in it because we are part of the Empire; that we are in it because we feel that we are members of humanity at large and must assume our responsibilities as such. Well now, I have often put that question to myself: if Can-