

the time of a general election, candidates will come forward who, while opposing the naval law will support Reciprocity; yet, others indifferent about Reciprocity will come out against the naval policy of both parties. This would be a puzzling situation for us. If we support the independent candidates, we shall be open to the charge of playing a double game. On the other hand, if we bring forward a third man—a straight Conservative—the government candidate will get in between.

"Mine was a decisive answer," says Mr. Bourassa. 'The Tories and Nationalists,' said I, 'Can not have anything in common. Mr. Monk and his group have had our support because of their pledge to oppose the naval policy of both parties until submitted for the people's verdict. Since Drummond-Arthabaska, Mr. Borden has come nearer Mr Monk; he has practically endorsed his plan of a plebiscite. This is the only ground upon which we can meet. Should you be returned to power, you must consult the people apart from a general election, and the complex questions which always arise at such times. It would only remain for us to accept the verdict of the majority should it endorse the naval law or any other plan of contribution to Imperial defence. Always retaining, of course, the right to advocate our views in order to induce the country to reverse its decision . . . The Naval question will always be to the front. Not being a party, we will not bring forward any candidate, but we will heartily support any man, whether Liberal or Conservative, Pro-Reciprocity, or Anti-Reciprocity, provided he pledges himself to resist any plan of direct or indirect participation in Imperial wars, outside of Canada, or at least oppose such measure until submitted for popular verdict by way of a plebiscite; the welfare of either party is for us of no moment. It is up to Mr. Borden and his lieutenants to decide whether to secure the seat for a ministerial candidate by entering a three-cornered fight, or suffer the election of the candidate whom we shall support.'

"I have no doubt," concludes Mr. Bourassa, "that the High Priest and Sanhedrin accepted the situation, since the fight was carried out according to our terms."

THE FIRST PLAN OF JOINT CAMPAIGN.

In *Le Devoir*, May 30th, Mr. Bourassa tells how Mr. Borden and the Tory leaders carried out their part of the alliance.

"As elections drew nearer," says Mr. Bourassa, "we had ample proof that the Conservative leaders were quite satisfied with the situation which the Nationalist campaign had forced upon them. The Monk group came out as the "autonomist" party with its complete organization, headquarters and committees distinct from the Conservative party proper.

"The Tory General Committee allotted the autonomist party most of the ridings in the Province of Quebec, retaining for themselves the English-speaking counties of the Eastern Townships, besides Pontiac, Argenteuil and three Montreal divisions; St. Antoine, Ste. Anne and St. Laurent.

"It was distinctly agreed that with these exceptions Mr. Monk had exclusive charge of the whole Province, with the right