

many men of this kind there are, I do not know. Other men have a considerable amount of capital invested in businesses that are not touched by the present taxation. Why should not a man who has \$25,000 or less in a business pay his share of taxation as well as the man whose business is capitalized at \$50,000? If he is allowed profits of 10 per cent, he will get \$2,500 a year. If he makes only 10 per cent, he could be exempted from taxation, but he could well afford to pay into the treasury one-quarter of each additional 5 per cent earned, one-half of the next 5 per cent earned and three-quarters of any further profits earned. When a domestic loan is floated, most of these men are glad to invest their money in 5 per cent non-taxable bonds which will be a charge upon the whole country for a long time and which will be a charge even upon the men who are at the front. Why should we send to the front a young man who has only his life to give, and leave behind, out of danger, other men who have large incomes which are taxed not at all or comparatively lightly? These men should at least be called upon to pay a large proportion of the money necessary to equip and maintain the men at the front.

One of my reasons for speaking to-night was that of making a few remarks with regard to a matter that has not been brought up in this debate and which relates to the foreign-born citizens of Canada. We have an enormous country in the West that required people to work and develop it. Very properly, the Government invited settlers from all parts of the world, and many came from what are now enemy countries. These men are not at all to blame for the war; they settled in our country; many of them took up third-class lands that nobody else would take, and have made good.

From my experience with these people I can say that they are good and industrious settlers. I notice a smile on the face of an hon. gentleman opposite. These people are not all Liberals. In some parts of my district there are a number of foreign-born settlers, and in some of the polls in these districts there is generally a Conservative majority and in others a Liberal majority. I am not talking politics at the present time. These men are citizens of this country, and they have a perfect right to have their citizenship respected. They have, however, been looked upon as enemies. I do not know of any recruiting meetings having been held in those settlements, but I do know that a considerable number of foreign-born settlers and sons of

foreign-born settlers have enlisted or have endeavoured to enlist, and many of them have been turned down because their country of origin was Austria or Germany. In that way an antagonistic feeling has been built up which should not have arisen. These people are not responsible for this war. Perhaps there were agitators and sedition-mongers amongst them, but they have been looked after, and I might say that they are not the only people amongst whom there are agitators. I am satisfied there is a field for recruiting which has not been worked. I am rather curious to know whether this Conscription Bill, if it passes, as no doubt it will, will be applied in the foreign-born settlements, as they are called. Although we cannot expect these people to be as enthusiastic as our British-born people are, they are not disloyal; in fact, many of them we may consider as very loyal indeed. To give an instance, an influential German-born citizen who came out here when very young told me not long ago that he had made an offer—I suppose to the Department of Militia—to raise a battalion amongst his own people if they were allowed to go and fight the Turks. That showed, of course, a perfectly natural feeling on his part. He said: "We do not care to volunteer to go to the front, and perhaps shoot our relatives there, but we are ready, if they send us, to go and take part in the fight against the Turks." I told him that a number of German officers were in command of the Turkish army. He said that did not matter, that they had no relations amongst the officers. This man had a younger brother wounded about three weeks ago fighting for the Allies. I could give a number of similar instances.

I do not think I am out of order in speaking along these lines. I want, if possible, to remove some of the false impressions that there are in regard to the foreign-born settlers in the West. In voting, as I intend to do, it may be that I shall render myself unpopular amongst some of my electors, but I am willing to take the risk. At the same time I believe in fair play and in stating what I know to be the truth in regard to these people or to any matters that may be under consideration. On frequent occasions I have been invited to and have attended Union School picnics, where, perhaps, thirty or forty children from each of fifteen, sixteen or eighteen schools for foreign-born settlers meet for an outing one day in the year. It would probably open the eyes of some of our friends in the East if they could attend some of those picnics.

[Mr. MacNutt.]