

the same opinion as the hon. member. If there are such men is it not well that we should amend the section so that there can be no doubt upon that subject, so that whereas the government can order out the militia for the defence of Canada yet when it comes to deciding the question of sending the militia outside of Canada to take part in a war between Great Britain and a foreign power, parliament should have the right to decide as to whether those troops should be ordered out or not? Lawyers do not always agree.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. Is the hon. member a lawyer?

Mr. GALLIHER. Well, I play at it sometimes. I do not agree with the conclusion reached by the hon. member for Colchester, because I take it we are legislating on matters pertaining to Canada and to Canada only, and I think reading this section and keeping in mind the fact that this legislation has regard to our own country, that these are the statutes of Canada, not statutes affecting Great Britain in any way, the meaning of the words 'within or without Canada' would be and could only be that something directly affecting Canada not indirectly affecting it, was involved. He may be correct and I may be wrong: I am simply stating that there is that difference of opinion between us, and with that difference of opinion existing between us, it seems to me that the government are acting wisely in placing that beyond question, by carrying this amendment. I do not think because we make this amendment that any feeling should arise that we are striking a blow at the loyalty of the people of Canada towards the British empire. I think if we do, we must think in our minds that there is a sinister motive in doing this. If I correctly apprehend the feeling of the people of Canada towards the mother country, neither this government nor any other government in Canada could have a sinister motive, which I take it was almost imputed by some members who spoke on the other side of the House.

If I gauge correctly the feeling of the people of Canada towards the mother country, it is absurd to charge this or any other government with any such sinister motives such as were almost imputed to this government by some hon. members who spoke on the opposite side. I cannot imagine that any government could make this change with any such motives in view. It is certainly drawing a very strained conclusion to charge any government, considering the relations that now exist between Canada and the mother country, with wanting to alter our status in any way so as to weaken those relations. Were I on the opposition side I should be sorry to think such a thing possible, and being a supporter of the government and also a British subject, and

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proud of the fact, I would be doubly sorry to imagine that any such motive could actuate the present administration.

Mr. RICHARDSON. The hon. member for Yale (Mr. Galliher) has imputed to me sentiments to which I certainly gave no expression. I did not say anything to advocate that we should contribute to the support of the British navy or army. What I said was that I met with the reproach on the other side of the Atlantic that we held our loyalty very cheap and that it cost us nothing. I would like to be able to point to the statutes of Canada and say: here is our legislation, this is what we are doing and are prepared to do by our militia. There is no use disguising the fact, we may boast as we like about being a great country and a great nation, we are a small nation, but live in the hopes of becoming a great one some day. But we are great to-day in this, that we are in close unity with the empire and therefore every tendency which has the slightest appearance of weakening that union should be avoided as much as possible. On the contrary it would be better for Canada to strengthen her own position and strengthen the empire by giving moral support to Great Britain in every cause she adopts. We should not go back but take a step forward, and if necessary legislate ahead of what the other colonies have done in that regard. We want no standing army, but there is no reason why we should not to a certain extent give a larger sphere to the militia of this country than is given in the old country or the other provinces. It would be to the benefit of Canada to do this. Of that there can be no doubt. It is to be deplored that we would do anything which would have a semblance of weakening the ties which we believe do exist between Canada and the empire. Let us feel more and more that we are an integral part of the empire; and being proud of our citizenship, we should be willing to do our share in defence of it.

Mr. GALLIHER. I wish to set myself right with my hon. friend. I did not intend to impute anything to him that he did not say. I merely referred to him for the purpose of saying that when such statements were made to him, as he said were, the answer to them was—and I think it a sufficient answer—that the best way in which we could contribute to the defence of the empire was by improving in Canada our own forces and our own resources. I did not intend to say anything further.

Mr. FIELDING. After a somewhat protracted debate, it seems pretty clear that our differences are merely in form and words and not in substance. In the early part of the discussion it was assumed that some material change was proposed in the clause; but as the debate proceeded it was made clear that such was not the case. My