

overseas. Some of the members who have gone abroad and served have not been given the opportunities for service which might very well have been given to them. A member who goes to the war makes a great sacrifice. There are members of this House who have raised one or two regiments and sent them over to the war and gone over with them. One hundred years ago, if a man raised a regiment for the King's service, he would have been made a baronet or a knight for that deed.

Mr. PUGSLEY: They make them knights and barons for much less than that now.

Mr. CURRIE: They have to be munition makers or something else. It is not a soldier member who gets rank and title now. Many members of this House who went over in good faith have been recalled without being given an opportunity for service. I regret very much that such should be the case, and I do not think that they were given the opportunity to which they were entitled. However, the opportunity of service came to me, and I served for weeks and months in the trenches, day in and day out, when there was constant action and death constantly calling. There never was a day that somebody was not wounded or killed. During that whole period there never was a court of inquiry on me or any complaint against me in any manner, shape or form. There was no court-martial asked for or ordered. Unlike some hon. gentlemen opposite, who have been preaching politics a good deal lately, I did not undergo any court of inquiry and I did not need to be whitewashed by a court-martial to keep me from being cashiered out of the service.

Hon. gentlemen opposite have opposed, not only this measure, but virtually everything in connection with the war since the beginning of this session. We have had constant obstruction, of course, of a constitutional kind, and when we glance over the gentlemen on the other side of the House who have been most prominent in this obstruction, we find the hon. member for St. John (Mr. Pugsley), the hon. member for North Cape Breton (Mr. McKenzie), and the hon. member for Guysborough (Mr. Sinclair). The hon. member for North Cape Breton said I had remained quiet for a long time in the House.

I remained quietly for a long time in the House because I did not wish to interrupt or to lengthen the session. I knew the need of reinforcements, the importance of carrying this war on, and I did not wish to pro-

long the debate. But if you ask yourself what have these three gentlemen done for the war; the mothers, the sisters, the women of Nova Scotia who sent their sons and brothers to the war, the women of New Brunswick—let them ask themselves if those three men have done their duty so far as their children are concerned, and ask the reason. The hon. member for St. John (Mr. Pugsley) has a son. Has he been at the war distinguishing himself? Is he sleeping in a dug-out up to his neck in mud at night? Nothing of the kind. The hon. member for North Cape Breton (Mr. McKenzie) should be the last man in this House to say a word about the war. His son has been tucked away out of sight during the war. Months ago he should have been at the war along with the other brave Highlanders from Cape Breton. The Highlanders are supposed to be a brave race, and I must say the majority of them are; but there are occasional degenerates amongst them. The exceptions only prove the rule.

Mr. McKENZIE: I do not think the hon. member has any business to refer to my son. He is in khaki receiving his training, getting ready to go to the front as speedily as he can.

Mr. CURRIE: I thought the hon. gentleman would make that statement. He was old enough to have gone with the First Division. He takes on his khaki and uniform as an officer now when this conscription Bill is introduced in this House. He does not want to take his chance going over as an ordinary conscript. The hon. member for Guysborough (Mr. Sinclair) remains silent and his case is on a similar level.

Mr. SINCLAIR: If the hon. member will allow me I will answer him.

Mr. CURRIE: I want an explanation from you as a Scotchman.

Mr. SINCLAIR: The attack the hon. gentleman is making shows the kind of soldier he is, and shows the colour of his liver.

Mr. CURRIE: Make your explanation.

Mr. SINCLAIR: I will not say it is white, because that would not be parliamentary; but I will say this to the hon. gentleman, that it is a mean and cowardly thing—

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order.

Mr. SINCLAIR: —for any gentleman to attack a young Canadian who is not present here to defend himself.