

Mr. CROTHERS: The sterling people of this country will not be deceived by any such buncombe.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Time.

Mr. CROTHERS: No, my time is not up yet. The leader of the Opposition has several times said that the introduction of the Military Service Act threw the apple of discord into this House, that it would make for disunion between the two races in Canada, and that every effort should be made to preserve union and harmony between them. "Preserve" is not the proper word in that connection—

Mr. LAFORTUNE: (translation): I rise to a point of order. I see that the hon. gentleman is reading his speech, which is not allowed by the rules of this House.

Some Hon. MEMBERS: Order.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER (translation): Would the hon. gentlemen be kind enough not to interrupt?

Mr. LAFORTUNE: (translation): I ought to be allowed to rise to a point of order.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER (translation): If the hon. gentleman does not stop interrupting, I shall have to name him.

Mr. LAFORTUNE: (translation): You may name me if you choose, but that does not give the minister the right to read his speech.

Mr. BOIVIN: (translation): Should not the hon. member for Montcalm be allowed to rise to a point of order, as any other member of this House?

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER (translation): The hon. gentleman is not rising to a point of order; he is stating that the time of the hon. minister has expired.

Mr. LAFORTUNE: (translation): I am not stating that the time of the minister has expired; I say that the minister is reading his speech.

Mr. CROTHERS: I was about to say "preserve" is not the proper word—

Mr. LAFORTUNE (translation): I demand your decision upon this point of order.

Mr. CROTHERS: "Preserve" is not the proper word in that connection, because such union and harmony has never existed, does not exist now, and never will exist until our patriotic vision—

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order, order.

Mr. CROTHERS:—embraces the Empire as well as all Canada—until we all become nationalists in the true sense of the word.

[Mr. Pugsley]

as distinguished from provincialists and racialists—until we all realize that we are living in the twentieth rather than in the eighteenth century.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order, order.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Will the hon. Minister kindly use his notes as reference.

Mr. CROTHERS: It is vain to say—

Mr. BOIVIN: I rise to a point of order. A ruling has just been given to the effect that the hon. Minister had no right to read from his notes.

Mr. SPEAKER (having taken the Chair): The rule is a member cannot read his speech. He is permitted to have reference to his notes.

Mr. CROTHERS: We have had to listen to members on the other side of the House during the last week and during the last month who have read their speeches in full. Some hon. gentlemen do not appear to appreciate what is being said. I was about to say, it is vain to say at the same time, that one is in favour of conscription and is supporting the leader of the Opposition who is opposed to it.—

Some hon. MEMBERS: Time.

Mr. CROTHERS:—and who if he were returned as leader of this House would not adopt conscription and could not get any recruits by any other means, so that, those who are in favour of conscription cannot consistently support the leader of the Opposition. That is confirmed by a statement I read a short time ago in the Toronto Globe, the leading and most influential Liberal paper in Canada. Let me read what it said on the eighth day of this month, that every man in this country who is opposing conscription is encouraging Canada to drop out of the war.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member's time is up.

Mr. W. H. BENNETT (East Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of any honourable gentleman on the other side of the House having anything to say of an uncomplimentary nature about this Bill, I will trespass upon the attention of the House to say something complimentary. Anybody who has heard the debate to-night would not realize that there was a question as to whether or not there should be a franchise Bill in this country. Hon. gentlemen have drifted far afield in discussing the Bill and the reason is plain. They are so mortally afraid to condemn the policy that they