

that part of the country from which I come, had all or nearly all been militia officers and were men of standing who could command all the necessary funds. I do not know how it was outside of my province; but I may state that the amounts needed to raise a regiment were considerable; I know of none that cost less than \$15,000, while in some cases the cost reached \$40,000. We had but one or two French Canadian regiments in the city of Montreal, and Sir Sam Hughes appointed as officers commanding to raise French Canadian regiments, young men who were mostly unknown and had no financial standing or substance. I have often wondered why the Government did not itself organize the recruiting of soldiers throughout the country and raise regiments through regular channels, as it raised the loans for Canada. I am quite sure that the hundreds of thousands of dollars spent on commissions for the raising of loans would not have been needed to the same extent for the raising of regiments. Yet the recruiting was done and regiments were raised just in a haphazard way by recruiting officers. We were formidably handicapped in that respect, I would draw the attention of honourable gentlemen to this fact, that the towns and cities contributed a greater proportion of recruits than the rural parts. That is true of the English-speaking provinces as well.

Hon. Mr. FOWLER: When the honourable gentleman makes that statement as to the enlistments from the urban and rural populations respectively, does he refer to his own province or to all the provinces of Canada?

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I refer to all the provinces of Canada.

Hon. Mr. FOWLER: That is not true so far as my province is concerned.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I may say that so far as my knowledge goes—

Hon. Mr. FOWLER: Your knowledge is defective.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: So far as my knowledge goes, I think that the general statement can be truly made, that the soldiers were mostly recruited, at all events in Ontario and Quebec—

Hon. Mr. FOWLER: Well, you can omit the province of New Brunswick.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND:—I may say in Ontario and Quebec, in much larger

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND.

numbers from the towns and cities than from the farms; and I would point out to honourable gentlemen a fact, of which they must be aware, that our province is far more agricultural than Ontario. Again, the appeal was made mostly to unmarried men, and it is a well-recognized fact that the young men of Quebec marry earlier than do those of Ontario.

I have stated that one of the difficulties was the fact that at the head of affairs there was no Union Government. I want to mention two other factors which had much to do with our difficulty in recruiting satisfactorily in Quebec. When an effort, a really serious effort, was made after the first twelve months to raise more regiments, we were confronted with a situation quite critical in our province. I will simply touch upon it. The Ontario Legislature had enacted a regulation bearing on the bilingual schools, which raised the ire of my province to a considerable degree. Those who were interested in having the minds of the whole population concentrated on the all-important question of the war, suggested, by different means or through different channels, to the Ontario government that the enforcement of that regulation should be suspended. We saw in the press such questions as: Are we going overseas to defend the small nations, the small communities, such as Belgium and Serbia, while our own people, a small minority in the neighbouring province, is being treated so shabbily? We thought that if our appeal could reach the sober-minded people of Ontario, we should at all events temporarily relieve the situation of this difficulty, by the suspension of the regulation. But it was not suspended.

There was another difficulty, the evil effects of which were not to be overlooked: it was the action of the Nationalist leader, Mr. Bourassa, who has an influential newspaper in Montreal. After admitting that we were justified in entering this war, he turned around and carried on a relentless campaign against the jingo-Imperialistic policy, past and present, of Great Britain. He ignored the paramount issue, which was the salvation of the world from German military domination, to give vent to his rancour at the ascendancy of the Imperialists in Canada whom he had helped into power in 1911.

If the Government of 1914, the Borden Government, had had the same sense of responsibility as those of France and England in this war, it would from the begin-