

MORE HONORS FOR NATIONALISTS.

A New Cabinet Shuffle and Judicial Appointments.

FURTHER changes in the Borden Nationalist Conservative cabinet, answering a fresh turn in the wheel of Nationalist domination and paying one more instalment of the debt which the Conservative party acknowledges to the Nationalists for having assisted in the "victory" of 1911, took place on October 6th.

E. L. Patenaude, Nationalist, and Conservative organizer for the Province of Quebec, presently the provincial member for La Prairie, was sworn in and given the portfolio of Inland Revenue.

Hon. P. E. Blondin was transferred from the ministry of Inland Revenue to that of Secretary of State.

Hon. Louis Coderre, Secretary of State, was retired to take the more congenial appointment of Judge of the Superior Court of Quebec, succeeding Mr. Justice Tellier, superannuated. Thus one more Nationalist has received the dues of services rendered in 1910 and 1911, and enters the cabinet of the Rt. Hon. Sir Robert Borden, and one more has been safely ensconced in a life job in the judiciary of Quebec.

Placations for the Disappointed.

Coincident with the announcement of the cabinet shuffle came the news of the appointment of Mr. L. T. Marechal of Montreal to a judgeship in the Superior Court of Quebec, rendered vacant by the elevation of Judge Pelletier to the court of King's Bench. Judge Pelletier, former Postmaster General, made way in the cabinet for Hon. T. C. Casgrain on October 20, 1914, the same day that Hon. P. E. Blondin succeeded to the place of Hon. W. Bruno Nantel who had been placed in a berth on the Board of Railway Commissioners. Mr. Marechal was a keen contender for the place to be vacated by Hon. Louis Coderre, but it is to be presumed that he and his friends had to be contented with a judgeship.

Apparently there were not enough Cabinet positions and Judgeships to go around, so Mr. Joseph Rainville, M.P. for Chambly-Vercheres had to be content with promises of wharves and harbor improvements for his constituency.

Mr. Rainville was a persistent and insistent claimant for cabinet honors, but was apparently placated when Hon. Robert Rogers, Minister of Public Works, visited Longueuil, in the constituency represented by Mr. Rainville, on September 25th and gave indefinite but glowing and specious promises of great Harbor works to be undertaken on the south side of the river by the Government in the near future.

Hon. Mr. Rogers was addressing a meeting that was supposed to be for the purpose of stimulating recruiting, but it will be difficult for the Minister of Public Works to convey the idea that the meeting was for that purpose, especially when it is known that Mr. Rainville was so insistent in his demands to be taken into the cabinet, and was being backed up in his demand by a section of his constituents.

Mr. Rogers worked with Mr. Patenaude in connection with the Chateauguay by-election. He knew Mr. Patenaude's qualifications as an election manager; in fact they coincided very much with his own ideas of "how to win elections." It was very important to Mr. Rogers, therefore, that Mr. Patenaude should be the new man from Quebec in the Borden Cabinet, and to arrange this and placate Mr. Rainville and his friends, a recruiting meeting was arranged at Longueuil and incidentally, of course, came the promises of harbor improvements.

Patenaude an avowed Nationalist.

Mr. E. L. Patenaude, the new minister, is classified in the Parliamentary Guide as a Conservative-Nationalist and has been known for many years as a close friend and supporter of Henri Bourassa, the founder and high-priest of the Nationalist propaganda. He has been the chief Nationalist-Conservative organizer in the Montreal district and was the head of the "inside" organization in the Chateauguay by-election of 1912, an election which set a new record for Quebec, if not for the whole of Canada in the extent of the corruption and devious methods practised under the general supervision of Hon. Robert Rogers to keep the seat in the government fold.

As to the identification of Mr. Patenaude as a Nationalist of the Nationalists, there is the evidence of the Arch-Nationalist himself, Henri Bourassa, who in his paper *Le Devoir*, May 27th 1913, quoted Mr. Patenaude as having declared at a Nationalist meeting at St. Remi, in connection with the Navy question, "We have nothing in common with either party."

Mr. Blondin's Patriotic Beliefs.

In transferring from the department of Inland Revenue to that of Secretary of State, Hon. Mr. Blondin becomes the minister most closely responsible in state matters. His office is the channel of communication between the Government of Canada and the Governor General as representative of the Crown; he is the minister of exterior affairs; he is the custodian of the Great Seal of Canada and all the confidential documents of the Dominion; also he is the sole judge, under the Naturalization Act, of who shall or shall not be admitted to British citizenship in Canada, as well as the ministerial head of the newspaper censorship in the Dominion. It was the same Mr. Blondin, Nationalist, who spoke at a political meeting at St. Louis de Blandford, Quebec, October 25, 1910, and said:

"You are intimidating the people in waving the British flag and adding that we must contribute always and everywhere to the defense of that protector of our constitutional liberties; but we will not be made to forget that in 1837 it was necessary to bore holes in it in order to breathe the atmosphere of liberty."