

by the British flag, and I resent the attitude taken during the last election by certain gentlemen with regard to the province of Quebec.

It has been suggested that the people of Quebec are not loyal because they have not enlisted as numerous as the people of the other provinces. There is only one reason for that state of things. Every Canadian knows that that condition is due to the fact that the Nationalist school was established in 1909 and 1910—and the doctrines of that school were made the chief topic in the province of Quebec during the elections of 1911 by the Conservative party in order that they might win. They sowed the seeds of discord, of disloyalty, using their own money and their own friends for that purpose. In twenty-two or twenty-three constituencies Nationalists were returned in the elections of 1911, having been inspired by disloyal sentiments; having been educated to the theory that we owed nothing to England and that we should not send one man across the seas for the defence of the Empire at any time or under any conditions. I lay it at the door of the leaders of the Conservative party that they favoured and encouraged that school of disloyalty in Canada. I admit that it was a school of many attractions and many allurements. Its chief exponent was one of the ablest men Canada ever produced, one of the greatest orators the French Canadian people ever heard, a man with a most versatile pen. They took advantage of his talent; they even paid him to disseminate his doctrine in the province of Quebec. Doubtless these false doctrines appealed to many when a young speaker went through the back settlements of Quebec—Drummond and Arthabaska for instance—and told the people that Laurier wanted to take their children and send them off to fight in the army and navy of England. Even the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Sir George Foster) sent a famous telegram to Drummond and Arthabaska—and he has since had time to repent and to be haunted by remorse for having encouraged such a doctrine.

I lay upon the Government all the blame for all the results that that school may have brought about in Canada, because the morning after the election, when they were able to secure the reins of power in Canada with the assistance of those twenty-two or twenty-three Nationalists who were elected because of their doctrine that Canada should not participate in the wars of the Empire, my right hon. friend (Sir

Robert Borden), as a reward for the doctrine which they had propagated in the province of Quebec, rushed those men, one after another, as vacancies occurred, into the Cabinet or upon the bench or upon various commissions. To-day, my hon. friends opposite say that the people of Quebec have not been as loyal as they should be. Separate the Nationalist element from the people of the province of Quebec, and the other half of the people of Quebec were as faithful and generous in their response to voluntary enlistment in the beginning of the war as the people of any other province of Canada.

It has been stated on many occasions, and I have seen it stated in the press of the western provinces, that the French Canadian people of the Maritime Provinces have enlisted more freely than the French Canadian people of Quebec. There is a good reason for that. It is that the Nationalist doctrine did not take root amongst the French Canadian people of the Maritime Provinces. They resisted it. I appeal to-day to my colleagues from New Brunswick, the hon. member for Westmorland (Mr. Copp) and the others who may be here. I regret that the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Carvell) is not in the House. I say that amongst all those men who have worked to stem the tide of Nationalism in New Brunswick the member for Gloucester (Mr. Turgeon) has been one of the chief instruments. I have been assisted by my younger colleague, the hon. member for Restigouche and Madawaska (Mr. Michaud). The people of New Brunswick have paid no heed to the doctrine of Bourassa, because we Liberals, knowing the danger of that school, stemmed the tide at once. For that reason the French Canadian people of the Maritime Provinces have enlisted as freely as the English-speaking people of those and the other provinces. The reason why the French Canadian people of Quebec have not enlisted so freely is because they have been corrupted by that school which has been the mainstay of the Government. It was stated only a few days ago by the ex-Minister of Militia (Sir Sam Hughes) that, had it not been for Mr. Lavergne and Mr. Bourassa, his friends would not have been in power in 1911.

The Conscription Bill which we opposed is now the law of the land. My right hon. friend the leader of the Opposition stated that the moment it became the law of the land it would be respected by himself and by the people of Quebec, and whatever incidents may have taken place since then