

LIBELLING OUR SOLDIERS



MALICIOUS ATTACK ON THE
CANADIAN MILITIA

INDECENT REMARKS BY
LIBERAL MEMBERS OF THE
HOUSE OF COMMONS

Libelling the Canadian Militia

When the Militia estimates were under discussion in the House of Commons during the latter part of the 1913-14 session of parliament, several leading Liberal front benchers made violently bitter and malicious attacks upon the Canadian militia. The grossest slanders and libels were indulged in by these hardened partisans.

The following extracts are taken from Hansard, the official report of the House.

F. B. Carvell, Liberal member for Carleton, N.B., and who sits in the front row of the opposition, close to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, on June 1st, 1914, in the course of a violent attack upon the Canadian militia, used the following words:

"All you get in the Militia of Canada is that you teach about 25 per cent. of the men in Canada how to get drunk."

On May 7, 1914, discussing the same subject he said:

"Well Sir, the Militia is a different kind of organization from what it was when I belonged to it, if it helps anybody's morals, manners or religion."

"He (Col. Hughes) was at all, or pretty nearly all the camps last summer and he knows that there was not a camp in Canada in which liquor did not flow like water—not an officers' mess in which there was not liquor galore."

"The Greatest objection I have to the Militia of Canada is that it is not a temperance organization but a 'boozorium'."

"The permanent staff of this country is a disgrace to Canada."

Alphonse Verville, the Liberal-Labour member for Maison-euve, Que., declared on June 1st, 1914, that:

"The Minister (Col. Hughes) may have in the Militia a good many men but I fail to see that they are what you call real soldiers, for this reason, that, in the event of war, the great majority of them would not do much fighting."

These vicious attacks upon the Militia were applauded by the Liberal members and silently approved by Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

Thirty-two thousand of Canada's sons left for Europe to fight for the Empire within six weeks after war was declared and other similar forces followed later.

Yet these are the men Liberals declared were cowards or drunkards.

You who have fathers, brothers, or friends at the front today, proud of their sacrifice for the Empire and hoping that they may be spared to return when the might of right prevails and the arms of Britain and her allies are victorious what do you think of these libels and these libellers?

Let your votes show these men that they are unfit for public life.



John Canuck:—"I'm with you, dad, on land, but my Liberal Opposition and Senate blocked my Naval Policy."