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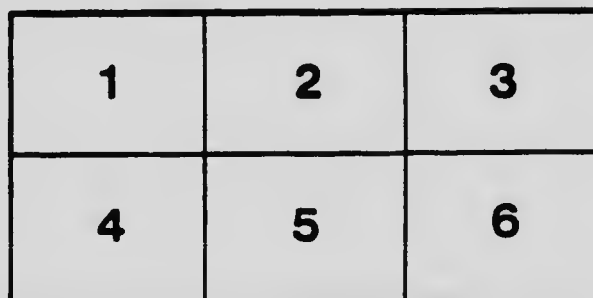
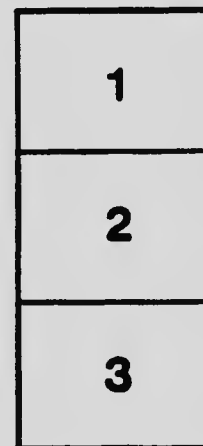
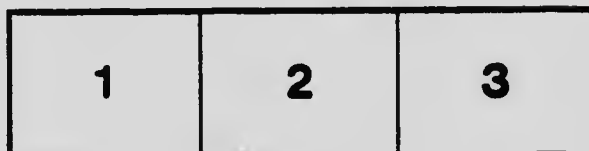
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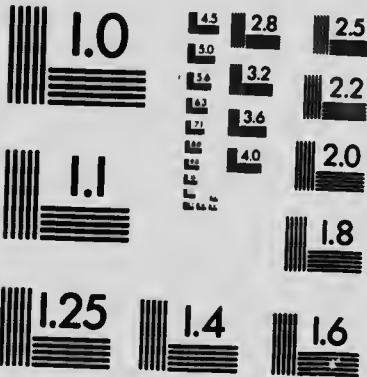
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# THE DOUBLE GAME

As Played by the Big Interests

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RELIGIOUS PREJUDICES A FAVORITE PASTIME

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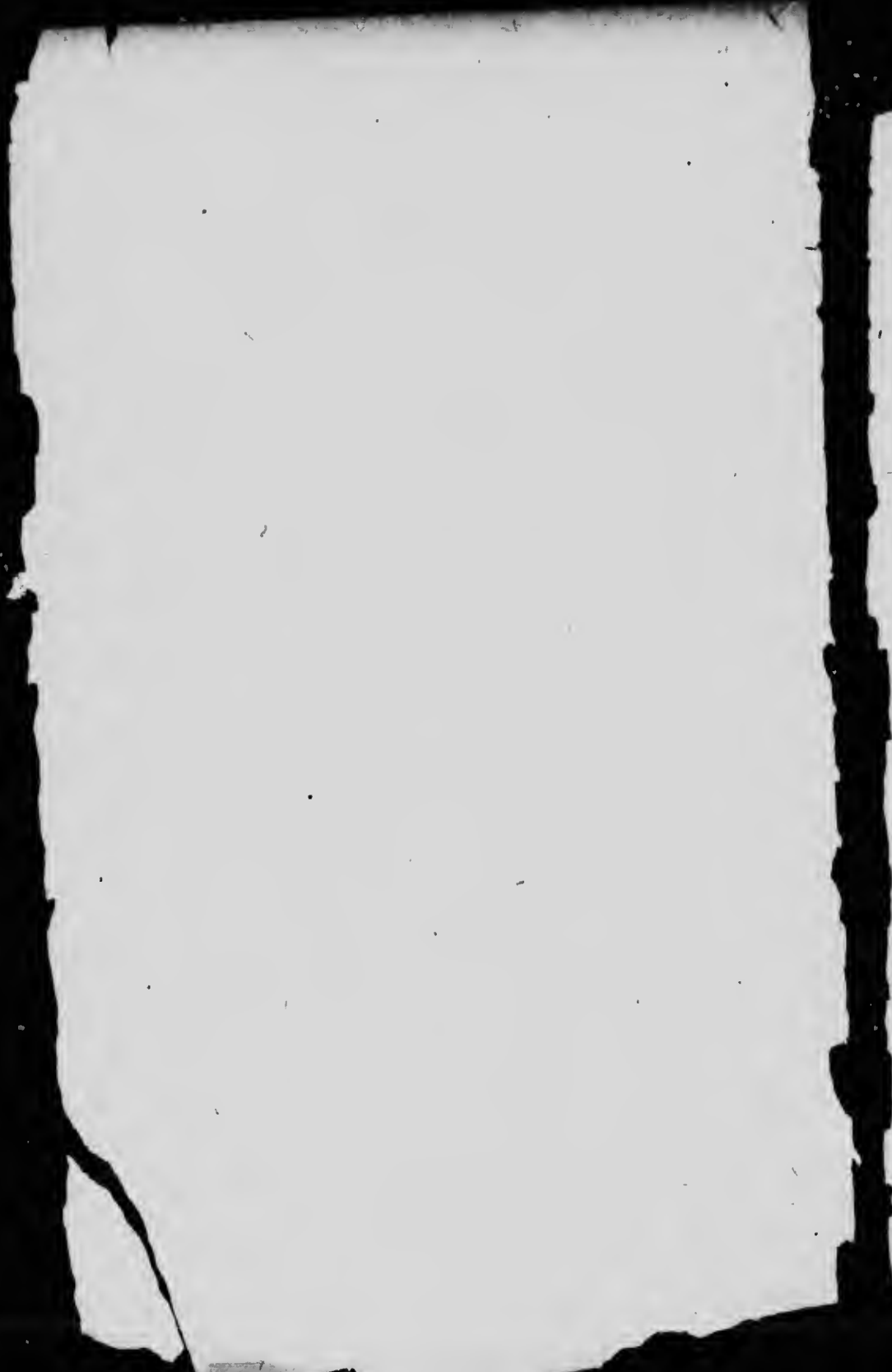
"Divide Your Opponents Into Groups, and Thus You  
Conquer Them," is the Rallying Cry  
of Special Privilege

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The Opinion of a Western Provincial Liberal Premier (Who  
Favored Conscription) on the French Canadian Race

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Bourassa and Borden Defeated Reciprocity



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# THE DOUBLE GAME

AS PLAYED BY THE BIG INTERESTS

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Religious Prejudices a Favorite Pastime

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"Divide Your Opponents Into Groups and Thus You Conquer Them," is the Rallying Cry of Special Privilege

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The Opinion of a Western Provincial Liberal Premier (who favored conscription) on the French Canadian Race

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Bourassa and Borden Defeated Reciprocity

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The victory in Drummond and Arthabasca was a victory won by Conservative and Nationalist campaigners in the fall of 1910, under the leadership of Mr. Monk and Mr. Bourassa against any provision being made in any way by this country for naval defence. The ground on which they assailed the Canadian naval policy of the Government of Sir Wilfrid Laurier was the ground of outspoken hostility to the idea of co-operation with the Empire. The Winnipeg Free Press, in its issue of November 4, 1910, pointed out that strenuously and persistently the Nationalists, under Mr. Monk and Mr. Bourassa, reiterated inflammatory utterances. The Free Press quoted a number of these utterances and denounced the views expressed and those who encouraged these people to make these utterances. That was in 1910.

## MR. BOURASSA SUPPORTED THE CONSERVATIVES.

The Toronto World (Conservative) of August 1, 1911, headed a news despatch from Montreal, July 31, as follows. "Nationalists Incline to Borden—Will Support Conservative Candidates in Constituencies Where There Are No Nationalist Standard-Bearers."

The World's despatch concluded as follows: "It is understood that Bourassa and his friends will support the Conservative candidates where there are no Nationalist standard-bearers and there will be no clamorations on the government side of the fence."

A Montreal despatch July 31, 1911, appearing in the Toronto Mail and Empire (Conservative) August 1, was even more pointed as to Nationalist and Conservative union than the item in the Toronto World. The Mail and Empire despatch contained the following:

"Mr. F. D. Monk, ex-M.P. and Conservative leader in the province of Quebec, will seek re-election to his old seat for Jacques Cartier. Mr. Henri Bourassa will not come forward as a candidate for a Federal seat in any of the constituencies. He made this announcement authoritatively today: 'I shall not be a candidate,' he said, 'but it is my intention to fight, in the columns of my newspaper and on the platform, as a simple soldier in the army which is being recruited in encouraging numbers under the banner of Mr. Monk.'"

While all this was going on, the Orange Sentinel, Toronto, was publishing most inflammatory articles against the Liberals and arousing Protestant sentiment against Sir Wilfrid Laurier. This is too well known to need more than mention.

### **CONVERTED TO FOLLOW AND HELP BORDEN.**

In 1911 Bourassa was for a while a strong advocate of the adoption of the Reciprocity agreement between Canada and the United States, but that was before the election arrangement was made with him by representatives of the Big Interests, but when this was arrived at Bourassa's work was on a par with that of the "noble eighteen Liberals of Toronto" who joined the Bordenites and issued a manifesto against the Reciprocity agreement and through their wealth and influence vast sums of money were spent to stir up the Protestant feeling in Ontario against the Liberals. Much of these huge funds was used to stir up Catholic feeling in Quebec against the Liberals.

### **THE THING AT BOTTOM IS THE PROTECTIVE TARIFF.**

So says the Renfrew Mercury (Unionist) specially qualified to speak.

In 1917 and 1918 the Mercury Newspaper (Unionist) published in Renfrew, Ontario, supported the Borden programme and in the general



elections of 1917 the Borden candidate in South Renfrew, the man for which the Mercury is published was a Roman Catholic. He ran as a Liberal Unionist against a Liberal who was of a different faith. It can therefore be assumed that when the Mercury speaks of the Big Intolerance and the Religious Cries it speaks from experience and knowledge. In an editorial on the passing of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, published in its issue of Friday March 7, 1919, the Mercury very clearly puts the situation as follows:—

"Rev. Dr. Taylor, of Renfrew, in pointing a few morals in the Methodist church on Sunday evening from the life of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, said that the deceased statesman never failed to mention, no matter in what province he might be speaking, that his blood was French and his religion Roman Catholic. Dr. Taylor might have added, with equal truth, that there were others forever pointing out the same facts and using them as ammunition against him. Wherever it was politically profitable to belittle Laurier because of his race and religion, it was done; while in Quebec the same agencies were wont to decry Laurier as being half English and more than half Protestant.

"What was at the bottom of such infamy? Ordinary politics? No. The thing at bottom was a desire to maintain a protective tariff in Canada and keep it as high as possible. Laurier might have been Hottentot by race and Mohammedan in religion for all the main assailants, the assailants launching the cries against him, would have cared, if he were but favorable to a protective tariff. Sir John Thompson, who for a while was Prime Minister of Canada, changed his religion from Methodist to Roman Catholic, but being in favor of trade barriers his religion was all right.

"Beneficiaries of tariffs regret exceedingly that D. D. Mackenzie, the new Liberal leader, is not French and Roman Catholic; for it is not so easy to inflame the majority of the Provinces against a Scotchman by descent and a Presbyterian in religion. They will now require to cultivate Quebec intensively, and whisper in other parts of the Dominion that Mackenzie is in some respects worse than Laurier. We are accustomed to speak of Hun propaganda as if it were the last word in subterfuge and intrigue, but Hun propaganda is a crude and transparent thing as compared with that carried on in this country in the interests of trade restriction.

Protestants and Roman Catholics are united in it, but they are  
hiding in their sleeves at those lower down who are sincere in their  
interests for religion and race. Protective tariffs, as distinguished from  
tariffs for revenue, which latter the big interests do not want, could not  
stand for ten minutes in this or any other country if the generality of the  
electorate but understood what heinous things they are. There are  
to-day more Canadians than ever who see the light clearly on this  
matter. The United Farmers are expressing themselves so emphatically  
that it is not likely that in the future the 'interests' will be able to  
stampede so many of the voters with race, religious, or party cries. It  
matters little or nothing whether the men in authority in the Legisla-  
tures call themselves Liberals or are known as Conservatives, except in  
so far as they play a part toward robbery by tariff at Ottawa. Sir Wil-  
frid Laurier, being human, had his faults, but of his defects his main one  
was that he did not antagonize trade barriers to a greater extent than  
he did from 1896 to 1911. In Opposition he was of the Cobden school;  
in power he contented himself with a curtailment of the vicious N.P.  
and the introduction of the British preference, through which means,  
joined to other favoring circumstances, the Dominion enjoyed fifteen  
years of unexampled prosperity."

The Mercury could have added that during Sir Wilfrid's tenure of  
office in addition to what the Mercury states many articles that were  
formerly dutiable were made free and on a very large number the duties  
were reduced and besides all this Sir Wilfrid's Government was de-  
feated after he had obtained a reciprocity agreement with the United  
States. The electors of Canada rejected the agreement.

## SPLIT UP THE FORCES OF PROGRESS.

Special Privilege (the Big Interests) in Canada could not stand against a united front of the people. That is why at Election times Special Privilege always seeks to divide the people into sections, and thus defeat the real wishes of the masses.

The arguments used to bolster up the Big Interests or Special Privilege will not endure proper discussion. That is why at election times Special Privilege has always endeavoured to divert the mind of the people from a study of economic problems, by the introduction of other matters calculated to arouse passion and prejudice.

It is not, in fact, to the interest of Special Privilege that Canada should be a united nation. That is why the life-long efforts of late Rt. Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier to that end, have been practically nullified by the friends of the Big Interests, who have held the reins of power since 1911. A united people would spell the doom of Special Privilege. It is not therefore the desire of Special Privilege or the Big Interests that there should be a united people.

"Confuse the issue" is the watchword of Special Privilege. This was its watchword in 1911; this has been its watchword ever since. To carry this out many devices have been employed. The race and creed cry has been raised. Patriotism has been invoked, and the Flag has been wildly flapped. Fraud of every variety has been employed.

In 1911 the Citadel of Special Privilege was in danger of damage through the Reciprocity Pact. When it was announced, the friends of Special Privilege constituting the Conservative Opposition in the House, threw up their hands, and for a time despaired of effectively opposing it, because the country, and the people wanted the Reciprocity Agreement enacted. But again the rallying cry was sent out, and a new device resorted to. In Quebec the infamous Conservative Nationalist Alliance was formed, its purpose being to divide that province. The Naval Question was invoked, as Sir Wilfrid Laurier was in favor of a Canadian Naval Policy but was denounced as being ultra-Imperialist. The cry was "Down with the Naval Programme." On this platform 27 Nationalist members were elected, against Sir Wilfrid Laurier and in support of Sir Robert Borden.

In the other provinces the cry was "No Truck or Trade with the Ankees." Sir Wilfrid Laurier was represented as being a Roman Catholic and a Frenchman, disloyal, and an Annexationist. In this wise was the attention of the people diverted from the real issue. The economic question was beclouded, and the people prevented from giving an unimpassioned verdict. Reciprocity was lost to Canada, and the Citadel of Special Privilege or of the Big Interests was again safe. In the four general elections previous to 1911 the Liberals carried an average of 40 seats in Ontario, but because of the religious (?) cries in 1911 the Liberals obtained only 13 seats in Ontario. The Big Interests are religious in both Quebec and elsewhere at election time. Previous to 1911 Manitoba cried out for Reciprocity, but in 1911 returned but two supporters of Reciprocity. Racial and religious cries were stronger than trade freedom.

#### **THE NATIONALIST CREED.**

We quote herewith four Articles, adopted in March, 1903, which are articles contained in the platform of the Nationalist party. These Articles are as follows:

(a) No participation by Canada in Imperial wars outside her territory.

(b) To spurn any attempt at recruiting for British troops.

(c) To oppose the establishment in Canada of a naval school with the help and for the benefit of Imperial authorities.

(d) Control over our militia and military colleges in time of war as in time of peace and for the defence of our territory exclusively. Refusal to grant leave of absence to any militia officer in order that he may take part in any Imperial war.

This was a portion of the Nationalist platform in March, 1903, and re-adopted at a meeting of the Nationalist League held at St. Eustache, Quebec, in July, 1910. This was also the platform which Sir Robert Borden accepted when he united with Bourassa in 1911 in this Conservative-Nationalist Alliance, "to defeat Laurier at all costs."

#### **MR. BOURASSA TELLS OF THE ALLIANCE WITH THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY.**

Not wishing to be unfair to Sir Robert Borden and the Conservative party, we quote hereunder what Mr. Bourassa has stated in regard to

this Alliance as published in a series of fourteen articles in his paper, *Le Devoir*, in May and June, 1913.

In *Le Devoir*, on May 29, 1913, Mr. Bourassa writes as follows:—

“During the session of 1910-11 two leaders of the Conservative party requested that I meet them at the house of a mutual friend of ours.”

The envoys opened as follows:—

“The Nationalists say they are fighting, as we do, the Liberal Government, but their stand upon Reciprocity embarrasses us (the Conservative party) to a great extent. Were we (Conservatives and Nationalists) to unite our efforts primarily against Reciprocity, it is quite possible that an understanding, satisfactory to both parties, could be arrived at on the naval question since we are one on the point of popular consultation.

“If you press the naval question in Quebec it may provoke a display of loyalism on the extremist wing of our party. If Reciprocity be but a subordinate issue with you, the difference between us might broaden still more, for the sole benefit of the common foe. At the time of a general election, candidates will come forward who, while opposing the naval law will support Reciprocity; yet, others indifferent about Reciprocity will come out against the naval policies of both parties. This would be a puzzling situation for us. If we support the independent candidates we shall be open to the charge of playing a double game. On the other hand, if we bring forward a third man—a straight Conservative—the Government candidate, will get in between.”

#### BORDEN MUST COME TO BOURASSA, OR NOTHING.

“Mine was a decisive answer,” says Mr. Bourassa. “Mr. Monk and his group have had our support because of their pledge to oppose the naval policies of both parties until submitted for the people’s verdict. Since Drommond-Arthabasca, Mr. Borden has come nearer Mr. Monk; he has practically endorsed his plan of a plebiscite. This is the only ground upon which we can meet. Not being a party, we will not bring forward any candidate, but we will heartily support any man, whether Liberal or Conservative, Pro-Reciprocitist, or Anti-Reciprocitist, provided he pledges himself to resist any plan of direct or indirect participation in Imperial wars, outside of Canada, or at least oppose such

"measure until submitted for popular verdict by way of a plebiscite; the welfare of either party is for us of no moment. It is up to Mr. Borden and his lieutenants to decide whether to secure the seat for a ministerial candidate by entering a three cornered fight, or suffer the election of the candidate whom we shall support."

#### BORDEN CAME TO BOURASSA.

"I have no doubt," concludes Mr. Bourassa, "that the High Priest and the Sanhedrin accepted the situation, since the fight was carried out according to our terms."

In *Le Devoir* of May 30, 1913, Mr. Bourassa continues:—

"As elections drew near, we had ample proof that the Conservative leaders were quite satisfied with the situation which the Nationalist campaign had forced upon them. The Monk group came out as the 'autonomist' party with its complete organization, head-quarters and committees distinct from the Conservative party proper."

"The Tory General Committee allotted the autonomist party most of the ridings in the Province of Quebec, retaining for themselves the English-speaking counties of the Eastern Townships, besides Pontiac, Argenteuil and three Montreal divisions, St. Antoine, Ste. Anne and St. Laurent.

"It was distinctly agreed that with these exceptions Mr. Monk had exclusive charge of the whole Province, with the right to accept or refuse prospective candidates with the understanding that such candidates as were approved of must fight as best they could the Naval Law and the 'no less nefarious policy' of Mr. Borden; that on Reciprocity they could take whatever stand they chose, and that they should nevertheless receive from the Conservative party their whole-hearted support."

#### TORY FUNDS ASSISTED BOURASSA'S PARTY.

"The Conservative party made use of its funds, and indirectly fostered the chances of such candidates as had declared themselves opposed to both policies."

Continuing in *Le Devoir*, of June 2, 1913, Mr. Bourassa adds:—

"The most obvious proof that the Conservative party had surrendered to Nationalist sentiment was to be found in the Eastern Townships. Through that District with the exception of Drummond-Arthabaska, no Nationalist or 'autonomist' candidates had been brought out. We took no part in the fight. Local Committees and the electors generally took upon themselves to spread our principles. Such favor had Nationalism gained in public opinion that Conservative candidates, both English and French, had seen fit, willingly or not, to grant our doctrine considerable way."

There we have the positive statements of Mr. Henri Bourassa that the Conservative party did make an alliance with him to defeat the government of Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

**TORY CAMPAIGN FUNDS PAID FOR LE DEVOIR,  
MR. BOURASSA'S PAPER.  
SIR HERBERT AMES, M.P., MUST EXPLAIN.**

But that was not all. Mr. Bourassa makes a most serious admission in regard to a Conservative member of Parliament. Mr. Bourassa states:—

"There came to our office one of the most prominent members of the Conservative party, carrying under his arm the Voters' Lists of all the Eastern Ridings. He paid into our hands subscriptions to Le Devoir for thousands and thousands of electors. We asked nothing but the regular subscription price, deducting therefrom the ordinary commission paid to agents. We thus enjoyed the satisfaction of using Tory money to circulate the good Nationalist gospel everywhere."

**SIR HERBERT AMES HAS BEEN ACCUSED OF BEING "THIS  
PROMINENT MEMBER" AND HE HAS NOT DENIED IT.**

Who was this prominent member of the Conservative party? Who was the man who had charge of the campaign funds for the Province of Quebec and who deliberately and undoubtedly with the knowledge and consent of the leaders of the Conservative party of Canada walked into Mr. Bourassa's office and paid for thousands and thousands of copies of Le Devoir to be circulated throughout the Dominion of Canada, a paper publishing a doctrine which the Conservative press of Canada are attempting to repudiate? It has been publically stated and never denied,

that this prominent member of the Conservative party was Mr. H. B. Ames, Conservative member for St. Antoine Division, Montreal, now Sir Herbert Ames, and the same gentleman who is to-day the head of the Canadian Patriotic Fund, the same gentleman whose firm at the beginning of the war made shoes for the soldiers and the same gentleman who on every possible occasion flaunts his loyalty before the people of this country. It is really wonderful what combinations you can find in certain individuals connected with the Conservative party.

This brings us to a date in the campaign of 1911 when the Conservative party was in full alliance with the Nationalist party and they together were fighting Sir Wilfrid Laurier. The elections were held and the Conservative-Nationalist party were elected to office.

#### **HOW THE NATIONALISTS WERE INCLUDED.**

Sir Robert Borden proceeded to form his Cabinet, and we quote from the Toronto Telegram, one of the most ardent Conservative papers in Ontario, showing how it was that Bourassa and his friends were able to have included in the Borden Government several Nationalist members.

**"The process of Cabinet making was in the final stages of completion when the Nationalists proceeded to tell Canada's Premier 'who's who and what's what.'**

**"The Nationalists demand, with all the weight of Henri Bourassa's authority behind it, was briefly:**

**Department of Public Works for F. D. Monk.**

**Department of Inland Revenue for W. B. Nantel.**

**Portfolio of Postmaster General for L. P. Pelletier.**

**No Quebec Protestant to hold a portfolio in the Cabinet.**

How the Nationalists got their reward and shared the Cabinet positions is a matter of history.

Mr. Bourassa was invited by Hon. Frank Cochrane to deliver some addresses in Northern Ontario. Before Mr. Bourassa would accept, he demanded proof of their allegiance to his doctrine. This demand brought forth the necessary avowal and shortly after Mr. Bourassa



received a renewed invitation to visit Northern Ontario with the two following messages enclosed:

**GEORGE GORDON (NOW SENATOR GORDON) ENDORSES THE NATIONALIST CREED.**

Mattawa, Ont., Sept. 8th, 1911.

Chas. McCrea,  
Sudbury, Ont.

I certainly am opposed to Reciprocity and will support request for repeal of Naval Policy, and a Referendum to the people, not matter who is Premier.

(Sgd.) George Gordon.

**MR. W. R. SMYTH, M.P., FOR EAST ALGOMA, JOINS WITH THE NATIONALISTS.**

Providence Bay, Sept. 8th, 1911.

Chas. McCrea,  
Sudbury, Ont.

I am opposed to Reciprocity pact. I am opposed to Naval Policy of the Liberal Government. I will support request for appeal of same, and Referendum to the people on Naval Question, no matter who is Premier.

(Sgd.) W. R. Smyth.

**GEORGE GORDON GIVES BOURASSA THE KEYS OF THE DISTRICT.**

Even this message did not convince Mr. Gordon that he had sufficiently humiliated himself and his party and fearing Mr. Bourassa might not be satisfied he took the opportunity of adding a word when welcoming Mr. Bourassa to his Riding. This is what he stated:

"The Liberals are blaming us for bringing the Nationalist leader here. I am willing to take full responsibility and to express my full admiration for Bourassa. I have no use for the navy and I think Reciprocity is a baneful policy. I give Monsieur Bourassa the keys of the district."

George Gordon.

Both Mr. George Gordon and Mr. W. R. Smyth were elected Conservative members of Parliament. Mr. Gordon was afterwards elevated to the Senate and was succeeded by the Hon. Frank Cochrane.

## **BORDEN PLAYS TO THE NATIONALIST TUNE.**

During the campaign Mr. Borden published two important manifestos, in neither of which did he have the courage to advocate his own naval policy of contribution. His manifesto published on the 29th of July, 1919, the day Parliament dissolved, was absolutely silent on the question. The second manifesto issued from Ottawa on August 14th is worthy of very special attention for the reason that as published in two different parts of the country, namely, Halifax and Montreal, it varied materially, evidently with a deliberate purpose, as we shall shortly show.

As published in Halifax Herald, Mr. Borden's pronouncement on the naval question was as follows:

"Since the general election the Government has entered upon a new line of policy in regard to the naval affairs which is of far-reaching importance. The policy adopted was not debated before the people during that election, and it bears all the ear marks of the hasty and ill-considered scheme.

"The plan of the Government contemplates the creation of a naval force that will be absolutely useless in time of war, and therefore, of no practical benefit to Canada or to the Empire."

As published in the Montreal Gazette and other papers, the following words were added which do not appear in the Halifax Herald report, namely:

"It (the Liberal navy) will cost immense sums of money to build, equip and maintain and it will probably result in time of war in the useless sacrifice of many lives."

## **THE BORDEN GOVERNMENT DESTROYED RECRUITING.**

Special Privilege fattened and batted well in the years following 1911. In the early days of 1914, Liberals were preparing for an election with sanguine hopes of complete success, and the friends of Special Privilege were faced with disaster at the polls. Then the War came. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, leader of the Opposition, cancelled his meetings and political engagements, declared a truce to politics, and promised his hearty co-operation to the Government in the carrying on of Canada's part in the war. At an emergency session fifty million dollars were voted for war purposes, and there was not a single note of dissension on either side. Then Sir Wilfrid went to Montreal to deliver a recruiting speech.

In his absence what happened? Preparations were made for the springing of a War Time election on the country. Pamphlets were got ready, and sent to various points of the Dominion for future distribution. These pamphlets represented Sir Robert Borden as "backing Britain" and Sir Wilfrid Laurier as "lacking loyalty." In other words it was intended that the minds of the people, already diverted by the war, should be further diverted from the past sins of the Government by again raising the loyalty and the race and creed cry. The instigators of the scheme were, however, shamed out of their project by public opinion.

However, the cry of disloyalty against Quebec never ceased. Failure in recruiting, due largely to the crass stupidity and deliberate bungling of the Borden Government, was blamed upon the people of Quebec. No man will deny that the 22nd French-Canadian Regiment was the equal in heroism, and resource to any regiment which ever went to the front. Quebec was not lacking in courage and the responsibility for its recruiting must be placed over the door of the Borden Government. And, judging by past events, it may be no exaggeration to say that the friends of Special Privilege did not want Quebec to recruit at all. As an instance of the recruiting methods pursued by the Borden Government in Quebec it is only necessary to state that a Methodist minister was made the chief recruiting officer for Montreal.

In 1916 the Government, despite maladministration in connection with the war, and despite the existence of graft in the matter of war

contracts, was accorded an extension of its period of power for one year. But it showed no signs of repentance, and when at the expiry of the year it again approached Sir Wilfrid Laurier for a further extension Sir Wilfrid, in the public interest, was compelled to refuse.

It is necessary to note at this point that the Government desired to put through a piece of legislation by which it was proposed to relieve Mackenzie and Mann of their debts, and to pay them in addition ten million dollars for the privilege of doing so. Special Privilege in the shape of the financial ring of Toronto was interested in this.

But the Government was faced with an election. On the economic issue Special Privilege was faced with isolation and disaster from a solid west, plus an almost solid Quebec. Something must be done to avert this disaster. It is a matter of opinion as to whether conscription was required in Canada, and on the principle men differed. It may be questioned, however, as to whether those who originated the idea of springing it on an unsuspecting country were actuated by purely patriotic motives.

**LAURIER SAVED THE SITUATION FROM DISASTER WHICH THE  
MANITOBA FREE PRESS, IN JUNE 1917, SAID BORDEN  
WAS PLANNING TO PRODUCE.**

On June 12th, 1917, the Manitoba Free Press voiced this view in no uncertain language as follows:—

**Manitoba Free Press, (June 12, 1917).**

“It is impossible to regard the situation as it affects Sir Wilfrid Laurier without mixed feelings of indignation and regret. It is less than five months ago since R. B. Bennett, who presumably spoke with knowledge, told a meeting of Winnipeg citizens that conscription meant bloodshed in Quebec and was not politically practicable. In the face of so serious a situation, the obligation surely rested upon the Government to proceed with some degree of caution and circumspection. Sir Wilfrid Laurier's co-operation in inducing the people of his province to accept compulsion was plainly highly desirable. But Sir Robert Borden went about the business in a manner which made it difficult to secure his co-operation and rendered it all but worthless if he did secure it. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, as a member of the Government, going to his

compatriots to seek their support for a policy of compulsion which he, in the light of facts known to him, accepted as inescapable, might have carried them with him to some degree at least; but to ask him to champion an unpopular policy in the making of which he had no lot, would be simply to leave him open to the accusation that he had sold out his people for the sake of office. On the other hand if Sir Wilfrid Laurier's acceptance of office had been followed by a suspension of the policy of compulsion pending further consideration, the effect must have been disastrous to Laurier's influence in the provinces where sentiment for compulsion is strong. Sir Wilfrid was put in an impossible position by the tactics of Sir Robert Borden.

"The theory that it was intended to destroy Laurier is by no means far fetched. It may well have been calculated that Sir Wilfrid when confronted with the inevitable division of the party would retire from public life. The consequences of such action could be foretold with accuracy. The French Liberal Party would disappear, Bourassa would become dictator of Quebec. He would go to Ottawa with a following of fifty members, creating in future parliaments a clerical and nationalist bloc which would always be in the market ready to trade political support for special privileges. No greater calamity could overtake Canada at this critical time. From this, Canada will be saved if Sir Wilfrid remains in public life, which he undoubtedly will."

In other words, according to the Free Press, the same old "cleavage tactics" were being adopted.

The Free Press itself cast in its lot with Union Government in the face of its powerful statement of June 12, 1917.

### **"HUSH, HUSH," SAYS SPECIAL PRIVILEGE.**

With the formation of Union Government a tacit agreement was reached that the tariff should be shelved until after the war. Thus Special Privilege secured a further reprieve.

Of the election it is unnecessary to speak. Suffice it to say that early in the campaign the propagandists of the Government abandoned dignified tactics, and adopted the old policy of bringing Quebec into disrepute before the people of other provinces. Lurid stories of rioting, sedition, and disloyalty in Quebec were circulated throughout the Do-

minion. These stories had their origin in the fertile minds of the writers.

The result is well known. While the motives of the electorate cannot be questioned, so much cannot be said of those of the tacticians who had planned the campaign. Quebec, the West's logical ally on the tariff question, was split from the West, and the cleavage tactics were once more successful. The Budget of the present session (1919) is proof of the victory which Special Privilege won.

The sequel is yet to be told. Special Privilege which has used Quebec as a pawn in its game is now it is openly stated, out to secure an alliance with the people it traduced, against the radical West.

To sum up, Special Privilege cannot live in an united Canada. Special Privilege exists through dissension among the masses of the people. Special Privilege is sectional, and lives on sectionalism.

Liberalism, on the other hand, cares nothing for sectionalism. Liberalism has always striven for a united Canada. Liberalism seeks its allies from all classes, all creeds, and all races. Liberalism is for Canada first, last, and all the time.

#### **A WESTERN PREMIER ON THE FRENCH CANADIAN RACE.**

Hon. W. M. Martin, K.C., M.P.P., Prime Minister of Saskatchewan, and formerly for eight years member of the House of Commons, Ottawa, in a manifesto to the people of Saskatchewan, December 8, 1917, amongst other things stated as follows:—

"Personally, I regret exceedingly the fact that Sir Wilfrid Laurier is not a member of the new Government for there is not a man in Canada for whom I have greater respect and admiration than I have for Sir Wilfrid. Statements made in the press to the effect that 'a vote for Sir Wilfrid is a vote to quit the war' are not only untrue but are a slander of the character of the man who guided the destinies of Canada for a period of sixteen years, during all of which time there was harmony among all the peoples of this great Dominion. The only question upon which I disagree with him is the question of conscription, for I am convinced that only by a system of selective conscription can we be sure that sufficient assistance will be sent to our men overseas and, while I hold this view, I also think that on account of the importance

of agricultural production every man habitually and effectively engaged in work on the farms should be exempted.

"There is a situation developing in this country which, if continued, will disrupt Canada. It appears as days go by that a determined effort is being made to isolate the French-Canadian race. Newspaper reports are exaggerated with the object of stirring up English-speaking people against our French-Canadian compatriots. Statements of this kind have been published in some of the press in this province. I do not believe even a small fraction of the statements I read in regard to the condition of affairs in Quebec and, if the newspapers supporting Union government are well advised, they will cease printing exaggerated reports in regard to what is going on in other portions of Canada. Their present conduct is simply driving men by the dozens, who really want to support the Union government into opposition to it. We should always remember that the French-Canadian people have stood true to Canada and to British connection in years past and they will rise to the occasion again if given a fair opportunity. **No political party can hope to retain the respect of the thinking people in this country if it resorts to the raising of race and creed prejudice and I am certain that any public man who resorts to such tactics will live to regret the day when he embarked upon such a course.**"

**PROVINCIAL PREMIERS, MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT, AND SENATORS.**

The foregoing is issued on behalf of the National Liberal Convention. The Committee is composed of the following:—

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