## PATHFINDER

December 11, 1944: p. 12

## French for "No!"

A mob of French-Canadian youths surged through Montreal with skull-andcrossbones signs: "Are we cannon fodder? Do we want conscription? No!" Quebec province seethed with rage at Prime Minister Mackenzie King's decision to send draftees overseas. (PATHFINDER, Dec. 4).

In British Columbia, mutinous home guard troops from Quebec picketed railroad stations to keep a Saskatchewan regiment off trains.



"DOWN WITH COMPULSORY OVERSEAS SERVICE!" yelled French-Canadian youth mob.

Brig. Gen. Edmond Blais recalled all Quebec units from other parts of Canada "for further training."

But Mackenzie King seemed set to ride out the parliamentary storm. Though Quebec Liberals who backed him on conscription risked lives and property against hopping-mad constituents, King's ouster on a no-confidence vote could leave Canada's French minority at the mercy of still more conscription-minded Progressive-Conservative and Cooperative Commonwealth Federation parties.

OldMagazineArticles.com