

the abuses of the Superannuation Act than I have. I claim that I am familiar with every provision of it. Had the superannuation system been rightly used in Canada, it would have been self-sustaining; but owing to the fact that the Conservative Government misused the Act, the system has become obnoxious and the people have declared that it must be abolished. Let me show that the present Government have not abused the superannuation system. They have not added one year, or one month, or one hour, to the time of service of any clerk who has been superannuated, and they have not given one dollar more in the way of superannuation than the official was entitled to under an honest application of the Act. When the present Government dispensed with the services of those clerks, they were bound to recognize their right to superannuation so long as that law is on the Statute-book. But, on the other hand, let me give the House a little idea of the manner in which the Superannuation Act was abused by the late Government. The ex-Finance Minister (Mr. Foster) must have an idea of how the provisions of the Act were applied in the interests of his own relations. No Minister of the Crown on this side of the House has been charged with being guilty of installing his own relations in office by superannuating other officials. I call the attention of the ex-Finance Minister (Mr. Foster) to this fact. Mr. R. W. Cruikshanks of St. John had \$2,000 a year, and the ex-Finance Minister superannuated him and added to his time of service, so as to give him the full amount, namely, thirty-five-fiftieths of his salary, or \$1,400 a year, and he appointed in Mr. Cruikshanks' place, Mr. H. D. McLeod, his own nephew. Mr. Cruikshanks got as full a superannuation allowance as if he had served fifty years. Now, was Mr. Cruikshanks in such bad health that he was incapable of performing the duties of his office? No, Sir. He has since been performing very onerous duties for the local Government and he is to-day as able to discharge those duties as ever he was in his life. But the ex-Finance Minister (Mr. Foster) wanted to find a place for his friend and nephew, and in order to get Mr. Cruikshanks quietly out of the way he added to his time of service.

Mr. FOSTER. I do not want to take any honours that do not belong to me. Mr. McLeod is not my nephew. I am old enough, but I am not old enough for that.

Mr. McMULLEN. Well, perhaps he is his cousin or some relation. The hon. gentleman cannot say that he is not related to him.

An hon. MEMBER. He is his uncle.

Mr. McMULLEN. Is not the hon. gentleman (Mr. Foster) the uncle of Mr. McLeod?

Mr. McMULLEN.

Mr. FOSTER. If I continue to deny any longer, the hon. gentleman (Mr. McMullen) will have all the degrees of consanguinity exhausted, and he might then find out the relationship.

Mr. McMULLEN. The hon. gentleman (Mr. Foster) wants to escape the charge that Mr. McLeod is his nephew, but he won't deny that he is a relation of his.

Mr. SPEAKER. I must ask the hon. gentleman (Mr. McMullen) to try and keep a little closer to the amendment before the House.

Mr. McMULLEN. I wish to point out how hon. gentlemen opposite abused the Superannuation Act.

Mr. FOSTER. I must imitate my hon. friend the leader of the Government and take a point of order. The hon. gentleman (Mr. McMullen) is now discussing the Superannuation and Civil Service Act. I am not aware that that is pertinent either to the main motion, which is for the second reading of the Franchise Bill, or to the amendment, which is that the Franchise Bill shall not be proceeded with until the tariff Bill is disposed of.

Mr. McMULLEN. I am simply answering the argument of the hon. gentleman (Mr. Foster). I admit that he took a very wide range—

Some hon. MEMBERS. Order.

Mr. SPEAKER. Even if the hon. member (Mr. Foster) were out of order when he was addressing the House, now that the point of order is raised and my attention called to it, it would hardly justify me in permitting the hon. gentleman from Wellington (Mr. McMullen) to proceed with remarks which are not pertinent to the question before the House. I may say further, that there is hardly any doubt that the hon. gentleman (Mr. McMullen) is anticipating discussion on another order which is on the paper. The hon. gentleman (Mr. McMullen) must confine himself to answering the certainly very numerous arguments which the hon. gentleman (Mr. Foster) adduced in support of his motion. I do not remember that the hon. gentleman (Mr. Foster) addressed any argument to the House with reference to the Superannuation Bill.

Mr. FOSTER. I surely gave him chance enough.

Mr. McMULLEN. The hon. ex-Finance Minister did unquestionably deal with the Superannuation Bill. I hope he is not going away, for I have something more to say to him. But as you have raised the point, Mr. Speaker, that I am dealing with a question that is now on the Notice Paper, I will postpone any further remarks in regard to that question; and I notify the ex-Finance