

and if they will shout again: "Hurrah for conscription!"

Now I come back to the town of Ste. Anne that I was speaking of a while ago, to tell this House how badly the town is in need of a post office. It seems to me that this post office is certainly due St. Anne which has quite a population, constantly on the increase; then they have a number of important business establishments, besides Macdonald College, which employs a great many people, and the new naval hospital that the Government is now building there. I hope that the Postmaster General will think over my request, not forgetting St. Genevieve which is also sorely in need of a post office. My worthy constituents have asked me to submit their request to the hon. minister; it is my duty to do it; and I do it gladly. During the former Government's tenure of office post offices rose as if by enchantment; every city whose population was sufficiently numerous to warrant a post office being built there was sure to obtain one from us. I would like to see the present Administration follow the same policy. So, in a nutshell, I say that a post office at both St. Genevieve and Ste. Anne de Bellevue would be very useful.

A moment ago I heard one of the hon. members in the course of the very interesting remarks he made to the House say that he approved the taxes brought down by the hon. Minister in his budget speech; only he doesn't like the methods used to levy these taxes; he would like to see the people taxed in such a way that they would not notice it. Mr. Speaker, the members who sit in this House are the authorized representatives of the people and the people have the right to demand that their representatives here be sincere and straight forward. I want to say to the hon. member that when you start out to attain a certain good you should take the best means of getting there and not try to hide the truth. No, Mr. Speaker, let us be frank and above board with the people. Let us tell them just how things stand; you cannot, you should not do otherwise. The people who toil and who pay decidedly have the right to demand sincerity in those whom they pay. So I believe that we should speak out frankly to them and tell them the truth about matters. I have never done otherwise.

(Mr. MACKIE (Edmonton): Will the hon. member allow me a question?

Mr. LAFORTUNE: Certainly.

[Mr. Lafortune.]

Mr. MACKIE: If I understand the hon. member, I conclude from what he says that he is opposed to direct taxation.

Mr. LAFORTUNE: I never said that, Mr. Speaker. I am merely blaming the hon. member who told this House that we should tax the people in such a way that they would not notice it.

About the time of the last election a very important question was discussed in this House: the question of establishing farming stations in the different centres of the Dominion. We already had large experimental farms in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and at Cap Rouge, Quebec and Ste. Anne de la Pocatière. I do not think we have enough of these establishments.

We have an experimental farm at Ottawa and its usefulness is recognized far and wide, but this is not enough for the farmers and I would like to see agricultural stations at different places in the provinces to give the farmers still more information. In the county of Montcalm the Government has established an experimental station for tobacco. At St. Jacques de l'Achigan they have succeeded in getting an agricultural station which is a tremendous help to the people of that locality. The Minister of Agriculture has just told me that the lease has expired. You wish to change the station; very well, so long as you set up some place else to better advantage and with greater efficiency. Last year we grew three million pounds of tobacco. As for myself every year I plant ten arpents with tobacco.

In the budget we meet no very great encouragement for dairies and creameries. I think that these latter should receive much more from the Government. Everything comes high and those who are engaged in the dairy industry should receive more protection. So I suggest to the hon. Minister of Agriculture that he put larger sums in the budget for the encouragement of agriculture.

Agricultural societies should receive special attention; co-operative societies and cattle-raising associations should get more encouragement. When we have millions and millions to spend it seems to me that we should be able to do something for agriculture.

It is necessary also for the Government to appoint inspectors the better to protect our cattle against contagious diseases. For instance, at St. Laurent, near Montreal, through an epidemic the college at this place lost 150 head of pork while the nuns lost 200 head. I myself have lost some thoroughbred animals; they died because the village veterinary did not know how to treat them.