

No. 100

## JOURNALS

OF THE

## HOUSE OF COMMONS

## OF CANADA

---

OTTAWA, WEDNESDAY, 30TH JUNE, 1943

---

## PRAYERS.

Mr. SPEAKER: In view of the widespread public interest regarding the statement which was made by the hon. member for Laval-Two Mountains, as contained in unrevised *Hansard* of Friday, 25th June last, page 4128: "Nous avons dans le Gouvernement trois nouveaux millionnaires depuis la déclaration de la guerre. Nous les dénoncerons en temps et lieu. Les fortunes s'édifient." "We have in the Government three new millionaires since the declaration of war. We will denounce them at the proper time and place. Fortunes are being built up."—And also the statement made by the Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister, as set forth in unrevised *Hansard* of 28th June, page 4159: "A moment ago my colleague the Minister of Justice drew my attention to a statement made by the hon. member for Laval-Two Mountains which is of a very serious character. I had not up to that time observed the remarks to which my colleague referred as well as others and I was not in the House at the time they were made, but I find them in *Hansard* in the official report of the English translation of speeches delivered in French on the date indicated."

The hon. member has made a grave accusation against three members of the Government, so grave that the implied and—it seems to me—the only meaning which can be drawn from the statement is that these three unnamed members are using their position to accumulate fortunes. Although unnamed, as the statement now stands, all and every member of the Government stand accused.

No more serious accusation could be made reflecting as it does on the integrity of members of the Government, especially those charged with the executive positions of Government. The hon. member must have realized the import of his remarks and duly considered the disastrous effect such a charge, if unchallenged, would have on public opinion, not only in Canada, but throughout the world, especially at this serious period of our national life.

The Prime Minister has challenged the statement and has asked that the hon. member should be obliged either to withdraw the statement completely or else to convert it into a specific charge to be investigated in the usual manner.