Public Works Construction-Mr. Sanderson

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Mr. SANDERSON: All right. The hon. member was chairman of the speakers' bureau. The hon. member worked day and night for a month, and on the Saturday before the polling took place he gave an interview to the Mail and Empire of Toronto. He said to the reporter: "There is nothing to it. Premier Henry will have 55 seats; I could name them to you, but it would only take up space in your paper, but he will have at least 55 seats." My hon. friend from Toronto had better keep quiet. He undertook to leave his seat in this House of Commons to go down to Toronto to superintend that campaign for Mr. Henry, Colonel Price and all the rest of them. What was the result? I should like to make a prediction about my hon. friend from Toronto.

Mr. SPEAKER: I think the hon. member should confine himself to discussing the subject matter of this bill.

Mr. SANDERSON: I am speaking about public works and the effect they are going to have on the various ridings.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon, member has stated that the hon, member for Toronto Northwest (Mr. MacNicol) was the organizer in the elections, and that has nothing to do with this matter.

Mr. SANDERSON: If Your Honour will just be patient with me for a moment I will connect that up.

Mr. MANION: We all have to be patient with you.

Mr. SANDERSON: The items for Toronto total millions of dollars. The first is customs building addition, site acquired, \$600,000; the next is new postal station "D", \$100,000; the next is completion of ship channel walls perhaps that is in my hon. friend's riding— \$220,000; and the next is new dock at marginal way—I do not know what that is; perhaps it is the parting of the ways—\$546,000. How much of that expenditure is to be made in the riding of my hon. friend?

Mr. MacNICOL: Not a single dollar.

Mr. SANDERSON: Is that because he has not a chance to be elected?

Mr. MacNICOL: The hon. member is again incorrect; I will be elected.

Mr. SANDERSON: Time will tell, but my good friend from Toronto had better keep quiet about elections. He was in charge of the redistribution bill which was put through last year, and believe me he took care of him-

[Mr. MacNicol.]

self and of his friends. He carved it up beautifully, but it makes no difference; he too is doomed, and if he can get into the Senate I would advise him to go there.

Now, getting back to public works, I want to say that within the last week in the province of Ontario we have seen a government which had lost the confidence of the people to such an extent that they were almost annihilated. And how did they try to get back into power? By bribing the people with their own money on roads and highways and with patronage of all kinds, the worst example of political patronage that this country has ever seen. The government that was defeated last Tuesday had lost the confidence of the people of Ontario to a degree that no other government has ever done, unless it is the government across the way; because my hon. friends opposite-and I am glad to see that the Minister of Justice has come in-have lost the confidence not only of the people of Ontario, and to a greater degree than the Henry government had done, but they have lost the confidence of the people of the eight other provinces of the dominion. And they have not the courage to go to the country; they will hang on to power as long as they can. Yet they bring down this bill proposing an expenditure of over \$30,000,000, almost \$40,-000,000, to bribe the people of this country to put them back into power.

Let me say a word about the contractors who will feed at the crib in connection with this expenditure. My good friend the Minister of Public Works—

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): Good friend?

Mr. SANDERSON: If I am not a good friend I will take it back.

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): Go on.

Mr. SANDERSON: I want to say to him that not later than three weeks ago, four weeks ago at the longest, an hon. member who sits on the opposition benches, from the province of Ontario, was in the minister's office in regard to some expenditure and the minister frankly told him he was going to do all he could to defeat him and therefore the minister could not do anything for him in the expenditure of money.

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): I deny any such statement. I never made any such statement to any member of this house at any time or on any occasion.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Withdraw.

Mr. GEARY: You had better unconditionally withdraw it.