

An Act respecting the Canadian National Railways and to authorize additional provision of moneys to meet expenditures made and indebtedness incurred during the calendar year, 1931.

An Act to amend the Criminal Code (cheques without funds and grand juries).

An Act respecting Unemployment and Farm Relief.

An Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the public service of the financial year ending 31st March, 1932.

SUPPLY—UNEMPLOYMENT

AMENDMENT TO MOTION OF MINISTER OF JUSTICE

The house resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Guthrie for committee of supply, and the amendment thereto of Mr. Heenan.

Mr. McINTOSH: When the Senate interrupted my address—and I do not know what I ever did to the Senate to have them do that to me—I was dealing with the attempts which were being made by my hon. friend from Saskatoon (Mr. MacMillan), hand in hand with the Tory organization of the province of Saskatchewan, to break up the Mennonite vote for the Liberal party in the Saskatoon riding.

Mr. MacMILLAN (Saskatoon): The hon. gentleman implies that I used any ability I had in order to get the provincial government to use provincial funds to manipulate Mennonite votes in my constituency. I had nothing whatever to do with the Mennonite vote, so far as schools are concerned. That statement is entirely false.

Mr. SPEAKER: That is a matter of controversy between the hon. members.

Mr. McINTOSH: The truth will come out. I did not say that the provincial government used public funds. I said that special grants were made to certain Mennonite school districts. These grants were for teachers' salaries and for school equipment, and in one case free desks were promised a certain school district. We have it on the word of the municipal secretary, C. R. Lane, of Warman, that this was not a municipal question and that the secretary attended a certain meeting at Warman but was there only for informative purposes. It was absolutely an attempt to influence the Mennonite vote to support my hon. friend on July 28 in the city of Saskatoon. No question about it.

Let me go further. My friend went out of his way to make it appear that the Liberal party had insulted the Mennonites. He was

becoming a friend of the Mennonites, a sort of knight-gown friend of the Mennonites all at once, and his only solicitude for the Mennonites was their vote. Consequently he got out a poster, accusing Dr. Young and the Liberals of insulting his dear little Mennonites. What was the result? The Mennonites who were said to have been thus treated drew up a petition in the Osler school district. There were 148 who signed that petition to the effect that the tactics of my hon. friend and of the organization that helped to elect him were antagonistic to their ideals and absolutely contrary to their conception of citizenship. More than that, may I say that the provincial government made an attempt to defend their actions in regard to supporting my hon. friend by saying that they were dealing municipally with this question, that it was not simply a problem of giving school grants to get the Mennonite vote. That, however, is absolutely repudiated by the evidence of the secretary of Warman municipality. He said that he did not attend that meeting as municipal secretary, and that at the meeting mentioned these questions were not municipal but had reference to school matters and school matters only. Let me read what is stated by Mr. Boldt, who signed the petition with 147 others in Osler. This is what he has to say with reference to my hon. friend's tactics:

On the other hand, we resent bitterly the tactics used by F. R. MacMillan in his efforts to secure votes.

He knew what the hon. gentleman and his party were doing. Let me show with what success the hon. member met in his attempt to split the Mennonite vote for his dear little Conservative party. In one poll in Osler he was defeated by 65 to 42 votes. That shows his standing in that poll. In another poll in Osler, he was defeated by 55 to 44. At Miller, he was defeated by 106 to 22; at Peters, he was defeated by 104 to 19; at Mennon, he was defeated by 114 to 18; at Hepburn, he was defeated by 168 to 44; at Smithburg, he was defeated by 75 to 23; at Hohefeld, he was defeated by 110 to 14; at Hague, he was defeated by 54 to 45; and at Ademuka, he was defeated by 73 to 22. At Gruenthal, the hon. gentleman had the very slight majority of 4, the votes being 48 in his favour and 44 in favour of his opponent. In this poll, where a dastardly attempt was made to break up the Mennonite vote by school grant pressure, that was the meagre majority he received. Had not that attempt been made, he would have been beaten overwhelmingly in that poll as in the others.