

sure the return of almost any candidate the party might choose to put in the field.

These, I suppose are the sentiments of the hon. member for West Huron.

Mr. HOLMES. Certainly.

Mr. BORDEN (Halifax). I am glad that my hon. friend is equally frank with the editorial writer. Here are some further suggestions which I have no doubt equally commend themselves to my hon. friend's judgment:

This town is slated for certain favours within the gift of the government, and, to make a long story short, the electors cannot afford to kill their chances for securing them by electing an oppositionist.

That also, I take it, was the view my hon. friend from West Huron presented to the electors on that occasion; and possibly the fact that there was a certain disappointment in the result of that election may afford the reason why we do not observe the name of the town of Owen Sound in these estimates.

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. These are not all the estimates.

Mr. BORDEN (Halifax). Oh, I see; my hon. friend proposes to put it in the supplementary estimates.

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. I advocated it some years ago, and I shall probably have to advocate it again if I hope to succeed.

Mr. BORDEN (Halifax). That election was held some weeks ago, and my hon. friend has had time to consider the matter between the date of the election and the time when these estimates were brought down. If the reason I have suggested had nothing to do with the absence of the name of the town from the estimates, I cannot understand what the reason is.

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. These are not the right estimates.

Mr. BORDEN (Halifax). The editor of this newspaper was evidently very high in the ranks of the Liberal party, he seems to have enjoyed the confidence of the leader of that party, because he seems to have known all about these gentlemen who were going to speak in the riding and the promises which they would hold out to the electors. Speaking seriously is it not a sad state of affairs that appropriations from the public revenue should be promised to or withheld from any constituency according as it returns a Liberal or Conservative candidate? Is not that bribery pure and simple? Is not that as direct an offer of a bribe to the voter as if you offered him \$5 for his vote? The only difference is that in one case you are bribing the electors individually and in the other you are bribing them collectively. The hon.

member from West Huron (Mr. Holmes) is another of these gentlemen who addressed the constituents of North Grey on that occasion. He addressed the electors along those lines, and affirmed the principle in this House, when I read it to him from the newspaper to-night. If these hon. gentlemen can draw any distinction between bribing the electors individually and bribing them wholesale, let them draw it. The hon. member for West Huron speaking from his place has told us that these are proper appeals to be made to the electors and that these are proper considerations on which the electors should vote.

Mr. HOLMES. The hon. gentleman must not misrepresent my position. I was simply laughing and speaking in a bantering and jocular tone, and I do not think that the government should be held responsible for the editorial opinion of any newspaper.

Mr. BORDEN (Halifax). Perhaps this may be a lesson to my hon. friend another time not to laugh too soon. I understood him to assert distinctly, though with a somewhat jeering smile, that that was exactly the kind of thing he believed in and that these were proper considerations to submit to the people. I am glad to know however that he did not believe what he said, or that he has concluded that the position he took is one which cannot be well defended. But it is not the first time that the constituency of North Grey has been treated to that sort of thing. When the Minister of Customs ran an election there some years ago, the people were invited to consider whether or not they would prefer that cold justice which they might expect if they elected the Conservative candidate or the warm sympathy to which they could look if they elected the Minister of Customs. It is not the first time in many ridings that that consideration has been put forward. It is very much in line with what seems to be the policy of the government as announced here to-night, and against that policy I raise my voice in protest and submit that there is not the slightest distinction between the offers of wholesale bribery of that kind and offers of individual bribery to the electors.

Mr. REID (Grenville). I see in one of the evening papers another evidence of this policy in North Ontario. The article is headed:—

DELIVERED GOODS, WANT THEIR PAY.

Bracebridge Would Like Government to Fulfil North Ontario Election Promises.

Bracebridge has long been the principal point for a large summer resort territory in the Muskoka district, and is also in a constituency that lately turned down the ex-Minister of Finance and elected George D. Grant, a government supporter, and on both counts Bracebridge has something coming to her. A delegation from Bracebridge, composed of Mayor J. D. Shire, John Thompson, P. Hutchison, G. H. O. Thomas and H. J. Bird is registered at the Grand Union and is here to press the claims