

on the Order paper in regard to the building of branch railways in Prince Edward Island, and it is very necessary that this statement should be brought down before that notice of motion is reached. I want to bring before the notice of the House, and for the guidance of the Minister of Railways in preparing this statement an error that I think occurs in the report of his department.

Mr. SPEAKER. I am afraid the hon. gentleman cannot go into a discussion of a subject like that at this stage of the proceedings.

Mr. MARTIN. I move the adjournment of the House.

Mr. SPEAKER. If there is a notice of motion by the hon. gentleman on the paper covering this subject, it is not possible to anticipate the discussion with a motion to adjourn the House. The hon. gentleman has risen to ask for information about returns which have been ordered, and I do not think that he can go beyond that.

Mr. MONTAGUE. The hon. gentleman says he wishes to call the attention of the Government to an error in the report.

Mr. SPEAKER. I understood him to say that he wished to discuss matters in the report of the Minister of Railways, in connection with a return to be brought down. I do not possibly see how we can allow that. I wish to give every latitude that the rules of the House will allow, but I do not think we can permit that.

Mr. MARTIN. I say I think it would help the Minister of Railways in preparing the return to be brought down. I find a statement here—

The PRIME MINISTER (Mr. Laurier). Order.

Mr. SPEAKER. I cannot see how the hon. gentleman is in order. He cannot refer to a motion which is on the Order paper.

Mr. MARTIN. I wish to call attention to a statement which is on page 12.

The PRIME MINISTER. Order.

Mr. SPEAKER. I have decided that the hon. gentleman is out of order.

POSTMASTER AT BEAMSVILLE.

Mr. McCLEARY. Before the Orders of the Day are called, I desire to draw the attention of the House to what must be considered by all fair-minded and unprejudiced men an outrage in every respect against a free-born Canadian citizen, an outrage not committed by any power of Government unfriendly to Canada and Canadian institutions.

The PRIME MINISTER (Mr. Laurier).

If my hon. friend intends to conclude with a motion, he will be in order, but not otherwise.

Mr. McCLEARY. I propose to conclude my remarks by a motion to adjourn. I was going on to say that this outrage had been perpetrated by a Canadian Government, upon a Canadian citizen, debarring him from his civil rights, and his privileges as a British subject.

The Sultan of Turkey has for the past months perpetrated most atrocious outrages on the Christian Armenians. Cold-blooded and heart-rending have been those nefarious outrages that have been perpetrated. There is, however, excuse to be made for the Sultan of Turkey; there may be something said in palliation of those terrible offences and awful crimes that have been carried out in his domains. But the Sultan of Turkey is a Turk—he is without the pale of ordinary civilization. Therefore there can hardly be a comparison instituted between the conduct of a Government such as Canada possesses, which enjoys the light of civilization, with the conduct of a despot who does not enjoy the enlightened environments of the Canadian people, a despot who knows nothing whatever of the great principle laid down by that greatest of teachers who ever trod the sands of time,—“Whatsoever you would that man should do unto you, do ye even so unto them.” While we characterize such acts as most abominable by the Turks, what shall we say of this Government which stoops not only to take away the means of livelihood of a Canadian citizen, but also to destroy his ability to make a livelihood in the future, even to take from him what is dearer to him than any position he occupies, namely, his character and his honour. It is because I consider this a most important matter, affecting primarily the individual to whom I have referred, but which if carried out to the extent that hon. gentlemen who sit behind the Government wish to carry it out, will affect a very large proportion of the citizens of this country. I beg leave to call the attention of the House to it.

In the early part of this session I placed on the Order paper of this House certain questions relative to the dismissal of W. D. Fairbrother, postmaster at Beamsville. The Minister of the Interior, acting for the Postmaster General, whom I regret is not in his place, answered the question. The inquiry I made was as follows:—

1. When was W. D. Fairbrother appointed postmaster at Beamsville?
2. Was he appointed by Order in Council?
3. Has the said W. D. Fairbrother been dismissed from said position?
4. If dismissed, what was the cause, and were any charges made against him?
5. If charges were made against him, was an investigation of the truth of such charges made?