

Declared before me at the city of Winnipeg, in the province of Manitoba, this 23rd day of November, A.D. 1912.

WARD HOLLANDS,

JOHN J. SULLIVAN.

A Commissioner in B. R., &c.

That is the statement of those so-called thieves and thugs who took part in the contest in Saskatchewan. I may say that anybody who knows Mr. Sullivan would believe him, even when not on oath, and I myself can certify to the truth of this affidavit up to the time we parted at Winnipeg, a week before the election. I had to go home at that time.

Now, I think these matters speak for themselves, and there is no necessity for me to take up any further time. I have placed these facts before the House, and they are corroborative of what has already been said before the House with regard to the Macdonald election by the hon. member for Edmonton (Mr. Oliver). I will only say that, as far as I am aware, the election was lost principally because it happened to be a very fine day. That is a peculiar thing to say, but anyone who was in the West last summer knows that we were visited by continuous rain. The settlers and farmers throughout the riding were, as far as I could see, favourable to the return of Mr. Richardson, but, as far as I could learn, going amongst them, they were determined to take advantage of the favourable conditions to complete their threshing.

When I was there they were threshing from early morning until after dark and I was surprised to find the meetings so fairly well attended. I was present at several meetings and I visited a good many of the threshing gangs in operation and I can say from what I know that the people were decidedly in favour of Mr. Richardson and had it not been a fine day and had they not been compelled to stay at their work they would have come in and voted for him. I believe, Sir, that every effort was made on the part of the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Rogers) to win that election, assisted by Sir Rodmond Roblin. I won't say they were illegitimate efforts, but every legitimate effort was made, I suppose I will not be allowed to say any more than that. At all events, notwithstanding all that was done by Sir Rodmond Roblin and Mr. Rogers their efforts were not quite so successful as they thought they would be because before the election Sir Rodmond Roblin promised that the Conservative candidate would have at least 1,500 majority, and probably 2,000. I shall not take up the time of the House speaking further on this question, but should the matter of the Saskatchewan elections again come before us I shall have something to say.

Mr. J. A. M. ARMSTRONG (North York): Mr. Speaker, the different subjects that have been referred to in the Address from the Throne have been fairly well covered by the gentlemen who preceded me and it is neither my desire nor intention to occupy the time of the House, nor to fill the pages of 'Hansard' to any great extent in my remarks of this afternoon. I wish, however to claim the indulgence of the House for a few moments for the purpose of expressing my opinion as to some of the utterances that have fallen from the lips of hon. gentlemen opposite during the course of this debate, and also to place myself on record with regard to certain questions which are of paramount interest to the citizens of Canada and which have a direct bearing upon the peace, happiness, and prosperity of our people. I regret very much that the right hon. the leader of the Opposition in observing the time-honoured custom of extending his congratulations to the hon. gentlemen who moved and seconded the address saw fit to dilute the honey of his congratulations with a certain amount of vitriol. I regret very much that the right hon. gentleman saw fit to make the statement that he saw very little in these addresses with which he agreed. I purpose in my humble way to bring to his attention some of the utterances of these gentlemen which I think will commend themselves to every right thinking citizen of this Dominion. So far as the speeches of the hon. gentlemen who moved and seconded the address are concerned I am satisfied to leave it to the calm judgment of the Canadian people to judge between the eloquent address of the hon. member for Chambly (Mr. Rainville) the scholarly utterance of the hon. member for Kingston (Mr. Nickle), and the ambiguous airy fairy speech given to the House by the hon. the leader of the Opposition. The House listened to the able and statesmanlike reply made by the leader of the Government in the manner that has always characterized his public utterances, and after he took his seat we were again treated to one of those short, pithy and witty deliverances so often given to this House by the hon. member for Edmonton (Mr. Oliver). The hon. gentleman (Mr. Oliver) started out his speech with a classical phrase, and I wish to express my regret that my classical education has been so neglected that I am unable to interpret the meaning of it. In reading 'Hansard' I find that the hon. member (Mr. Oliver) commenced by referring to some friend or supporter of the Minister of Public Works as being afflicted with jimjams. That is undoubtedly a very classical phrase and I shall not attempt to interpret it to this House, but I am gifted with a certain