

Star is. Sir Hugh Graham has made a great deal of money with his paper by following every party, every government, performing on every tight rope, and dancing to the music of every violin. We all know that. It seems to me that when he changed his name from Hugh Graham to Lord Athelston it might have been more appropriate to call himself Lord Ragtime.

I shall probably again address this honourable House when the Conscription Bill comes before it; but I have on this occasion placed this matter plainly before you because it is time that this country was made aware of the truth in regard to the enlistment of French Canadians and the slackers of Ontario. I will now await the answer of the Government to my question and my challenge.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: I would say that that is a hypothetical question, and is consequently out of order.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN: There may be two or three points of order before we get through. I heartily and completely concur in the remarks made by the honourable Senator from Grandville (Hon. Mr. Choquette).

The Hon. the SPEAKER: Excuse me—

Hon. Mr. CLORAN: There is no point of order raised, Mr. Speaker, and you have no right to correct me.

The Hon. the SPEAKER: There is a point of order raised.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: I may say that the question has been answered by the representative of the Government in this House, and, having been answered, it cannot be discussed.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN: It is both a motion and an inquiry.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL: Order.

The Hon. the SPEAKER: Order.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN: I can keep order just as well as you can.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL: It is a pity you did not.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN: There is a motion before the House.

The Hon. the SPEAKER: There is no motion.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN: All I have to say is this, that I do not want to implement what my honourable friend has said; but this is

an indication of what the Government is prepared to do when it gets an actual majority in this House.

Hon. Mr. POWER: I do not like to see a bad precedent made. I am sorry the honourable gentleman from Grandville should have spoken perhaps a little more vehemently than was necessary, but I wish to call the attention of the Chair to rule 39:

No debate is in order on a mere inquiry; but explanatory remarks may be made by the senator making the inquiry, and by the minister or other senator answering the same. Observations upon any such answer are not allowed.

That is perfectly correct.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL: Now read rule 21 in connection with that.

Hon. Mr. POWER: I am speaking to the question of order. If this were a mere question, the point of order taken by the honourable leader of the Government would have been properly taken; but rule 40 says:

When it is intended to make a statement or raise a discussion on asking a question, the senator having such intention, as part of the notice under Rule 21, gives notice that he will call attention to the matter inquired into.

Now, we have had discussions running over several days on similar notices, and I do not wish to see the practice of the House set aside.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Will my honourable friend the senior member for Halifax (Hon. Mr. Power) say that, once a representative of the Government has given an answer to a question, that answer can be discussed?

Hon. Mr. CLORAN: Certainly it could be discussed.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: I have not asked the honourable senator. Will my honourable friend from Halifax say that?

Hon. Mr. POWER: Well,—

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Yes or no.

Hon. Mr. POWER: Something depends on circumstances. There has been no debate. The honourable gentleman from Victoria (Hon. Mr. Cloran) rose to take part in the discussion, and then the leader of the Government gave his answer.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: I answered before.