

What is the first sentence?

We do not want Doctor Coffyn elected in Gloucester because we need his vote to maintain the government in power.

Now, what did Premier Richards say? In his letter to me he continues:

The rest is altogether incorrect. I made no reference whatever to Dr. Coffyn in connection with unemployment relief work. I did say that Mr. Veniot was endeavouring to claim credit for the carrying on of relief work because he had been asked, in common with all members of the federal house, to make suggestions to the Minister of Labour; that I understood he was exhibiting this letter for the purpose of indicating to the electors that he was responsible for the obtaining and carrying on of the relief work. I pointed out that, on the other hand, the letter which he had was only the letter which had been sent to every member of the House of Commons and that, as a matter of fact, the administration of relief work in the provinces was within the jurisdiction of the provincial government; mentioning, at the same time, of course, that the Dominion government was contributing a certain proportion of the cost of such work,—twenty-five per cent in the cities and towns where the municipalities themselves were contributing, and forty or fifty per cent where the work was a provincial undertaking.

I may add that three other members of the provincial government were present at this meeting, seated on the platform during the time I was speaking; namely, Messrs. Stewart, Léger and Harrison. They confirm the statement which I make.

Now, I would advise the hon. member for Gloucester to be careful of his statements on the floor of this house. Let him be very careful of his facts before he goes ahead and makes remarks which are absolutely unreliable, remarks which I believe he knows are absolutely irresponsible, and which evidently are made only in an endeavour to injure this administration.

In conclusion I want to tell the hon. member for Gloucester and the hon. member for Quebec East (Mr. Lapointe) that when they again come into the county of Westmorland they had better be careful of the statements they make, because I have as much support from the French-Canadians as has the hon. member for Gloucester, and I want him to understand that nothing will be tolerated in my county unless based on facts; he cannot palm off that hearsay stuff in Westmorland. Right now the hon. member for Gloucester knows he dare not go to Aboujagan and Barachois, he dare not go to Cape Tormentine and Cape Bald, and repeat the statements he has made in this house, because the administration to-day is spending money to help the fishermen in the county of Westmorland—something which the previous administration never did. We are spending money judiciously

and in the best interests of the people. I want to tell the hon. member that if he takes his friends and goes to the people of Westmorland county and does what he is doing at the present time hoping to help the Liberal party, his efforts will be absolutely futile. The hon. member has endeavoured to belittle the people of Westmorland county, the poor people in the fishing districts who are trying to get a few dollars to help them through the winter; he has endeavoured to show that improper expenditures have been made.

Mr. VENIOT: Never said a word about it.

Mr. PRICE: That will be the result if you do the same thing in the county of Westmorland.

Mr. VENIOT: I am not going to bother answering the tirade of the hon. member, but he purported to read a letter from the Premier of New Brunswick. As far as I could understand it, in that letter the premier denied having made a statement which I attributed to him. I wish to say here and now, Mr. Chairman, that I was present when the Premier of New Brunswick made that statement, and I can support what I am saying now by the testimony of two reporters who took verbatim accounts of his speech. Therefore I stand by what I said, in spite of the hon. member for Westmorland.

Mr. SANDERSON: I want to ask the Minister of Public Works just one or two questions in regard to some of the undertakings in Ontario. I think he mentioned a little earlier in the evening that no public buildings were constructed under the unemployment relief proposals. Is that correct?

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): I think that is correct.

Mr. SANDERSON: In ten or twelve places throughout the province repairs are being made or have been made to public buildings. Were tenders called for in each case?

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): Yes.

Mr. SANDERSON: Public tenders were called for in each instance?

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): Not public tenders. Those who were in the line of work required were invited to tender, not by public tender but according to the regularly established practice that has prevailed in the department for many years. Following that practice, the architect looks after the tenders secured in this way, in exactly the same way that was adopted by my predecessor.