

work. If they spend that money in the way they are doing, it will be lost, and by and by they will say "If we do not continue this work we will lose the money that we have expended." That has been the case all the time in making a harbour out of that gigantic stone quarry at Port Colborne. The government should examine that question thoroughly, and employ independent engineers, not men who are bound to cover up former blunders, I do not care by what government committed. If they procure an independent surveyor, and he will say that Port Colborne is the best place for the harbour on the Welland Canal on Lake Erie, by all means let them take it. Then there are other items. They tell us what they have done for the farmers of this country. Lord help the poor farmers if this government is to run the country very long. The first thing they did was to take the duty off corn. My hon. friend the Minister of Justice told us that the corn in this country was sold at 12½ cents per bushel. He thought it was a great stroke of business to import United States corn to feed Canadian cattle. There is land enough, energy enough and intelligence enough in this country to raise all the grain that we require to feed our stock and our people; instead of going to the United States for it, and it is the duty of the Canadian farmer to raise all the food that he requires to feed his stock, and his family. Look at what they are doing in the penitentiaries for the farmer now. They are manufacturing binder twine.

Hon. Mr. BAKER—For their friends.

Hon. Mr. McCALLUM—Yes, and not for the farmers. They started out with the idea that they were going to help the farmers. Of course, we have to feed the prisoners in the penitentiaries and we should employ them if we can, but they should not be employed for the benefit of one political party.

Hon. Mr. MILLS—Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. McCALLUM—They sell this binder twine to their friends for about 4½ cents a pound, and these friends combine and sell it for about 13 or 14 cents, for the benefit of the farmers! The government took the duty off binder twine to help the farmers, and took the duty off corn to help the farmers, and now they are not satisfied with that,

but they must tax him and put a mortgage on his property. They must discount the future and tax all the farmer has in the world, and embarrass the children unborn by entailing on them the payment of interest on this money that they are going to spend, scattering it to the four winds of heaven instead of getting a just return for it. That is where this government stands before the country to-day, and when they face the people, I can tell them what the results will be. The hon. Minister of Justice says it is necessary to have a large number of ministers in order that they should go through the country and come in contact with the people. He says the estimates are large because we have a large territory. These gentlemen used formerly to speak of \$38,000,000 as being an enormous expenditure for 5,000,000 of population, but now they have changed their tune and they speak of our vast territory necessitating this increase. It has been said in the discussion that the ministers think they are not paid enough salary. I want every man to be paid fully for whatever service he performs. We want to pay a good wage for a good day's work. They talk as if \$8,000 a year was not sufficient for the gentlemen who are governing the country. I do not say they are governing the country; they are playing at government. They say they should have more salary, and some members of Parliament say they should have double their present salary. They say they could make more in other businesses. Well, I do not know but they might. We have the expression of the late Controller of Customs, Mr. Wallace, who said he got \$6,000 a year and was well paid. I know that he is a clever man, he runs mills and keeps stores and all that, but he says that \$6,000 is more than he could make at anything else, and yet these gentlemen think they are not sufficiently paid. Let us consider the matter a little. They come here and what stock have they and how much money have they invested?

Hon. Mr. BAKER—In some cases it is very small capital.

Hon. Mr. McCALLUM—I agree that it is small capital. If they had a large amount of brains, of course they might recompense the country some. I do not wish to say anything offensive to anybody, but I think that the people of this country understand that