

forgot to tell you that I am also going to hang you and I have got the timber all ready for the gallows on which you are to be suspended.' So the Minister of Justice comes down to this House and says: We are going to give you new styles, new patterns, new clothes, and they will be good ones. He says nothing else when he introduces his Bill, but by and by he comes down and acknowledges that what he is really going to do is to hang the party, and that he is getting the timber ready to make the gallows.

Now, I take my right hon. friend's definition of what should constitute a crisis. I took down his own words: 'If fraud is committed or if hostile legislation is passed by the provincial legislatures, we must act; we would be recreant to our duty if we did not.' I propose to argue that out with my hon. friend. In the first place, if fraud is committed, against whom is it committed? Against the party in the province or against the party in the Dominion? Under the arrangement of the voters' list, as it is in Manitoba, it is impossible to commit a fraud against the one without committing it against the other. Well, is it possible that fraud has been committed against the Liberals of Manitoba and that up to this date, though that fraud has been going on for years, not one of their leaders or representatives has raised a voice against it in the provincial legislature? So that I think my right hon. friend has to prove something more than a fraud against the provincial electorate. He has to prove outside of that, he has to prove fraud against the Dominion electorate. That would be fraud against this House, which this House would have a perfect right to remedy. That would be hostile legislation which we would have a perfect right to resent. Well, I propose to look at this legislation and ascertain whether Manitoba, from the time the Conservatives came into power in 1899, has been guilty of putting legislation on the statute-book hostile to the party which supports my right hon. friend. And to do that well, you must contrast it with the legislation which Mr. Greenway had before Mr. Hugh John Macdonald came into power. You must trace the course of legislation. Now what was Mr. Greenway's franchise and list preparation? In his time and under his regime, they were Liberal partisans who were the registration clerks and not officers of municipalities. Does my right hon. friend agree with that? In Mr. Greenway's time the legislation on the statute-book provided that the revising barristers should be partisans and not judges, and they all were partisans, chiefly lawyers, mostly sent out from the city of Winnipeg. Am I right in that or not? Under Mr. Greenway, the registration clerks actually prepared the lists. That is they had wider powers by far than the registration clerks have under the present legislation. Is that denied? And after they

had done their work, it went for revision to a partisan appointee of the Greenway government and not to a judge.

Mr. BURROWS. The difference between the registration clerk then and now is this. Under the Roblin Act, the registration clerk to-day takes the names of the applicants and writes them in the register. Unless there is an application to strike the names off, they remain there, and the judge has nothing to do with it. They are registered as voters once the clerk writes them on.

Mr. BERGERON. How was it before?

Mr. BURROWS. Just the same, only he put them on the list and the list was published and advertised a month so that any one could apply to have the name struck off. But now the lists are not published at all, and no one ever sees the names from the time of revision.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Not correct.

Mr. FOSTER. My hon. friend has tried to enlighten the House and instead has led us into an absolute fog of untruth. What he says is not correct.

Mr. BURROWS. In what way? It is absolutely correct.

Mr. FOSTER. I am coming to that. Mr. Greenway's legislation, which I have described, was acted on in the elections of 1892, 1896 and 1899. Then Mr. Hugh John Macdonald came into power, and he immediately made a change in the registration and the list preparation law. Was that change hostile to the Liberal party? What was it? It put the lists absolutely into the hands of a registration board from beginning to end. The registration board consisted of the judges of Manitoba and appointed its own revising officers and registration clerks as well. I ask my right hon. friend if that is correct or not? Comparing that With Mr. Greenway's law, was it hostile legislation?

Mr. BURROWS. That portion of the Act is repealed.

Mr. FOSTER. Let my hon. friend not be in such a hurry. I know that he was born in a hurry, and since these timber limits and timber leases are concerned, he is not disposed to wait. He will get all he wants if he is just patient as I go through with this question. What I ask now is was there any indication of hostile legislation in that of Mr. Hugh John Macdonald, passed in 1899 or 1900, comparing it with the legislation which Mr. Greenway had in force in that province before? You have an absolutely unpartisan board. You have your board of judges appointing your registration clerks. You have your board of judges appointing also the revising barristers. It appointed nineteen Conservatives and sixteen Liberals, and the other five constituencies went to the judges themselves. They themselves