

ture of the province of New Brunswick been created. When charges are made against members of a Parliament or Legislature under the British Constitution, it is usual for the members so charged to demand an instant inquiry. Was this done?

Mr. CARVELL: Never.

Mr. EMMERSON: Was this done by Hon. Mr. Flemming, the Prime Minister of New Brunswick? No. Although public notice of the charges had been given, he came before the Legislature and, as Prime Minister of the province, rushed through a Bill to its third reading to give an additional guarantee in aid to this railway to the amount of \$2,000,000; but he never opened his mouth about these charges; he never referred to the transaction in any way whatever, and yet my hon. friend from York thinks the hon. member for Carleton should have been silent with respect to the Hon. Mr. Flemming's connection with the transaction. I say it would have reflected very much to the credit of Hon. Mr. Flemming, and he would have had a greater claim upon our sympathies, if he had gone before the Legislature and demanded that an inquiry into the charges be held at once, and before any further action was taken with respect to the additional aid that was asked for this railway. Here is a charge that some half million or more of the funds of the province have been improperly appropriated in connection with the construction of this road. Before the Premier will even speak of the charges he asks that the company shall be placed in a position whereby they can realize, by reason of the credit of the province, an additional \$2,000,000 ostensibly to aid in the completion of the road. No action has been taken by the Premier. The inquiry has not been held and although the legislation was rushed through, although the legislature prorogued a week ago last Saturday, although legislation has been enacted authorizing the inquiry, no steps have been taken by the Government. Here is the head of the Government, the accused, the Premier of the province of New Brunswick, withholding action and preventing the people of that province from knowing the actual facts with respect to the charges.

The hon. Minister of Marine and Fisheries (Mr. Hazen) comes before this House and condemns my hon. friend from Carleton for daring to mention the matter in order that my hon. friend the acting-

Minister of Railways and Canals (Mr. Reid) shall be warned with respect to the application that is now pending before the Dominion Government for an additional \$2,000,000 in connection with some bridges that it is proposed to construct. I am sure that the hon. acting-Minister of Railways and Canals is grateful to my hon. friend from Carleton for bringing to his notice the conditions which have been prevailing in the province of New Brunswick and for advising him in respect to the matter. The Dominion Government, in the light of the facts that have this afternoon been ventilated before this House, would not, I venture to say, even dare to bring down to Parliament a proposal in aid of the construction of these bridges until these charges have been inquired into and until the facts have been declared and exposed, if there are facts to be exposed, to the people of this Dominion. It is a fair proposition that no action should be taken by the federal Government in connection with this railway until that inquiry has been held. Action should not have been taken by the legislature of New Brunswick in relation to this railway until the charges had been investigated and disposed of. But this was done and the circumstances are before the country. This was not a matter to be treated with the levity with which my hon. friend from York (Mr. McLeod) treats it. It is a matter of very serious and grave concern, it is a matter which affects the future financial condition of the province of New Brunswick and my hon. friend from Carleton is doing very great public service in the interests of the province, and aye, indeed, in the interest of the Government and the people of all Canada, in so pointedly bringing to the notice of the House the facts which seem to be but too evident.

I am not going to prejudice any gentlemen whose names have been mentioned in connection with this matter. I appreciate the fact that it is a very easy matter to make charges. I have the fullest possible sympathy with the gentlemen who stand charged with these matters to-day and I would not prejudice them. But these gentlemen, when they take the attitude which they have taken, when they burke inquiry and will not create a tribunal, when they draw the veil before the vision of the people of the province and of the Dominion in the effort to obscure the facts of the case, I am sure are not in a position to appeal to the sympathy either of this House or the