

many persons who might come to the help of my hon. friend the Prime Minister. It is a very good thing to keep their minds busy because then they have no time for wicked thoughts about putting people out of work.

Let us take the ministers one by one, and first we will consider my genial friend the Minister of National Revenue (Mr. Ryckman). He knows we like him and he does very well as a minister. I congratulate him, but he has less work than his predecessors had, because Canadian imports have decreased. If he has more work it is because he increases the tariff either over his own signature or by orders in council, and he is wrong in doing that. I should like to spare him that sort of work. If he did not do that he would have enough time in which to come to the assistance of the dumb Minister of Labour.

Now let us take my genial friend the Minister of the Interior (Mr. Murphy). He knows we like him also, but he has not as much work as my hon. friend from West Edmonton (Mr. Stewart) had when he was Minister of the Interior, because then the federal government had control of the natural resources of the west. Now these have been handed over to the provinces, and my hon. friend has more time at his disposal. If he has not more time it is because he is bothered by callers who wish to be appointed Indian agents or something of that kind.

Now let us take my good friend the new Minister of Finance (Mr. Rhodes). I congratulate him upon the fact that the Prime Minister has selected him as his adviser in financial matters. That is a great compliment to my hon. friend, and I am sure he will do very well. But with the revenue of the country falling he has much less to look after. I know he has a good deal of work in looking after conversion loans and that sort of thing, but that is because of the condition of the country. He has less to do than Mr. Robb had, for instance, or than Mr. Dunning had. He might have some time in which to come to the assistance of our silent friend the Minister of Labour.

Then there is my genial friend the Postmaster General (Mr. Sauvé). He is doing very well; he increased the stamp tax so that now we pay three cents instead of two for a letter. But he is doing very well, except when he is dismissing postmasters. He wastes too much time listening to the complaints of sour-mouthed defeated candidates who want postmasters all over the country dismissed for this and that reason. If he looked after the general administration of his department, without wasting time in dismissing so

many good people, he would not be obliged to work twenty hours a day. He might do his work in eight hours, and in the twelve hours saved he might come to the assistance of the Minister of Labour.

Then there is my good friend the Minister of Marine (Mr. Duranleau). I think he does very well as a minister, and that is the best answer to the argument raised by himself and his colleague the Postmaster General when they were in the Quebec assembly. Then they complained of the fact that the Minister of Labour was a lawyer and not a working man, but here we have them sitting in council next to a lawyer who is Minister of Labour. I must not forget my friend the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Stewart), who is doing very well also. I have said that to him very often, and I am in earnest.

An hon. MEMBER: He did not build the station.

Mr. POULIOT: The station is all right now. I am dealing with a stationary minister, whose tongue is stationed in his mouth so that it does not work. I mean the Minister of Labour; I am not referring to the Minister of Public Works, for whom I have great admiration. Hon. gentlemen opposite should be very quiet; the next time I hear any interruption they will get it quick.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr. Hanson, York-Sunbury): I would ask the hon. gentleman, who knows the rules, to observe them. We are discussing section one of this bill.

Mr. POULIOT: I think my discussion is in point, because I am dealing with the members of the cabinet and pointing out that they have much more spare time than the ministers in the last government had, and I am suggesting that they might use that spare time in assisting the Minister of Labour. In any case, I have nearly completed my argument.

I come now to my friend the Minister of Railways (Mr. Manion). He cannot complain of overwork, because he does not have charge of the administration of the railways; he just supervises it as his predecessors did. The Minister of Justice (Mr. Guthrie) also is doing very well, but he is doing no more than was done by my hon. friend from Quebec East (Mr. Lapointe) when he was Minister of Justice; he is doing no more than was done by Sir Charles Fitzpatrick, Hon. Edward Blake or any other minister who held that position. They did not work twenty hours a day.

Mr. COTNAM: How is Mr. Taschereau?