

with a man who was making an attempt to meet his payments. I cannot give an answer to my hon. friend to-day; probably I will not have an opportunity to give my answer in the house, but I will inquire fully into the matter and will see that my hon. friend gets full information with regard to this particular case. I am sure this is an isolated case; the actions mentioned by the hon. member are entirely opposed to the policy of the board. We treat them with the utmost leniency as long as there is a chance of payment, but sometimes people are not very anxious to pay and they must have pressure brought to bear upon them.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): The minister's reply may be all that could be expected at the moment, but I have given the name of the settler and his loan number, at the request of the minister. This settler feels extremely hurt over this whole situation. The case is clear, but evidently the minister did not listen quite so intently as I had hoped he might. On September 14 this man owed the board \$142.66 arrears. On September 15 that amount was paid in full, so from September 14 to October 1 this settler was fully paid up. On October 1 his current annual payment of \$507.08 came due. On September 13 seizure papers were made out, signed, and presented to the supervisor who travels over that country. These papers were made out in the Calgary office and given him to serve on this man if he did not immediately make his payment. This information was given the settler on October 4, just four days after the amount became due and at a time when he was actually engaged in threshing his crop. The actual service of the papers took place on October 11, after Superintendent Woods had been requested to stay action in the matter until some discussion could take place. This is not an isolated case, and I am simply raising it because it is the one case in which I am satisfied the evidence is clear. The documents in support of the evidence are in my possession, and I am satisfied that the department will have a great deal of difficulty in putting up any defence. I have received many complaints from the Craigmyle, Rowley and other districts, but I have refrained from taking these matters up because in most instances the only information I could obtain was that of the settler, and he did not always have the real evidence with which I could build up a case. But I want the minister to take particular cognizance of this matter and if he finds that the statements which I have made are correct I want him to take the

[Mr. Forke.]

most drastic action with respect to the Calgary office. Their activities should be checked up and if they are acting in a dictatorial or domineering fashion towards the settlers, the officials should be removed from the office.

Mr. FORKE: I have not received any notice of the case mentioned by the hon. member. If he had made that statement to me a week ago I would have been in a position to reply to him to-day. This is the last day of the session and the hon. member is making certain statements.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): The minister has no authority for stating that this is the last day of the session; the session may run into next week or the week after.

Mr. FORKE: I am in no hurry.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): If this matter has been taken up by the settler himself with the Calgary office, and I presume with the Ottawa office, then the whole file should be in the minister's department.

Mr. FORKE: I can get the file, but this is the first time I have received any notice of the case. If the hon. member had given me this information a week ago I would have been able to have the information before the house to-day and the matter could have been settled. If the hon. member is willing to keep the house sitting for another week, I can get the information. He is giving what was stated to him by the settlers, but there are two sides to every question.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): I asked the minister to bring in this information after eight o'clock, along with the figures he is to get for the hon. member for Red Deer.

Mr. FORKE: It might be necessary to send to Calgary for the information.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): Are the records not kept down here?

Mr. FORKE: They do not know that a case like that is going to come up; the accounting is done here.

Mr. SPEAKMAN: Mr. Chairman, I should like to make a few remarks in connection with the tightening-up process in making collections. I have made inquiries to find out whether or not such orders have been issued from Ottawa, and I assume that there has been a little tightening up.

Mr. FORKE: The collections have not been what might have been expected.