

will have to finish his unpalatable task; that is to say to apply the closure with all its drastic features, so that the voice of the representatives of the people may be stifled and that this iniquitous legislation may be put through.

Before many days, Mr. Chairman, you will hear loud protests from all parts of the country. They have been heard already. The Minister of Finance knows that the great capitalists of Montreal, joined by those of Toronto, who have no personal interest in this transaction, have strongly protested. But that is only the beginning; mightier protests will follow from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Upon the Government rests the whole responsibility for this policy. We will not have anything to do with it. As far as we have been allowed to discuss the measure, we have tried to open the eyes of the Government to the dangers of the road we are travelling over; since this debate is on, we have endeavoured to convince them that they are taking a wrong step, that they are not protecting the interests of the people and that they are imposing new burdens upon the already overtaxed ratepayers of this country. But, what does the Government care about that, if by so doing they can extend their protection to those who have a finger in the pie? What we are witnessing to-night recalls to my mind a promise made by the Prime Minister after the election of 1911, when he said that hereafter the voice of Toronto would be heard and listened to in the administration of public affairs and the legislation of the country.

In the present case, the voice of Toronto has been heard, but we will soon hear a still mightier voice, the voice of the people. At no distant date, I hope the Prime Minister and his colleagues will invite the electorate to pass sentence upon the policy they are now submitting to the House. When that time comes, the voice of Toronto will not be the only one to be heard, and the people will have a chance to express their opinion at the polls. The electors have been waiting for that occasion since 1911; they will take their revenge on the Government and send back the Prime Minister and his supporters into the cold shades of the opposition from which they should never have emerged, thus putting an end to the iniquities perpetrated since 1911.

Sir THOMAS WHITE and Mr. GAUTHIER having risen to address the Chair:

Mr. PUGSLEY: The hon. member for St. Hyacinthe (Mr. Gauthier) has the floor.

Sir THOMAS WHITE: I gave way to two hon. members. I should like to say that I do not like to take any advantage.

Mr. PUGSLEY: The minister is going to stop discussion on the section. He should not do that when the hon. member for St. Hyacinthe has the floor and I will appeal to the Chair. There is a limit beyond which he cannot go.

An hon. MEMBER: He is afraid of it.

Mr. GAUTHIER: I do not want to impose my speech on the Minister of Finance if he does not want to hear me.

Mr. ETHIER: He is afraid of you.

Sir THOMAS WHITE: The hon. member will not be debarred from speaking if I have the floor, because he can speak on section 4 or he can speak to-morrow. I have given way to two speakers. We are on closure procedure. Who has the floor?

Mr. PUGSLEY: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member for St. Hyacinthe has the floor.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order.

Mr. PUGSLEY: No Chairman has a right to turn his eyes from a member who has the Floor.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order.

Mr. PUGSLEY: I want to say—

Some hon. MEMBERS: Hear, hear.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order.

Mr. PUGSLEY: No one with any idea of parliamentary rules would have the indecency to do it.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Order.

Mr. PUGSLEY: I appeal to the members here if the hon. member for St. Hyacinthe (Mr. Gauthier) had not the floor first. I, as one member of the House, protest. You have no right to do it. It is tyranny.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Shame.

Mr. PUGSLEY: You should be ashamed to do it. You had no right at all.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Shame.

Mr. PUGSLEY: I see that the Chairman desires to explain. We will allow him to do so.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: Sit down.

An hon. MEMBER: Call in the police.