

charge their constituents for this service? My second question is: Would the minister inform the committee whether the lay members of the house are just as effective in making representations to him and will be as effective in making representations to the board we are proposing, or to the officials of the department, as the members of the legal profession in this house? Those are the questions I should like answered.

Mr. Marchand: Mr. Chairman, I think that if a member of the legal profession makes representations in this house he acts as a member of parliament and should not charge anything for the representations he makes.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Marchand: I say that because he is just fulfilling his duty as the representative of his riding.

Mr. Lewis: Or anyone else.

Mr. Marchand: Yes, or anyone else.

Mr. Lewis: Even those outside a member's riding.

Mr. Marchand: Yes. If a member of the legal profession has to do more than that professionally I presume he is entitled to remuneration for it. I think it is normal for a member of parliament to make representations to the department and if somebody charges for so doing I think it is morally wrong.

The hon. member for Kootenay West has asked me whether non-lawyers are as efficient as lawyers. As far as I am concerned I make no difference between the two, and I know non-lawyers who are much more efficient than lawyers.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Starr: Mr. Chairman, I listened very intently to what has been said and to the question put to the minister. I think it is most unfair that the record should be left with the remarks made by the hon. member for Kootenay West specifically referring to members of two parties without mentioning anyone else in the house. I think he scrupulously avoided mentioning anyone else, knowing very well that there are others to whom this applies. I also think it reflects upon those who are members of the legal profession if the hon. member does not specifically name these people. If they are not named, a cloud will hang over the heads of all those who are

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members of parliament and also members of the legal profession. I believe the hon. member should have gone further than he did. Whether or not he did so purposely, what he said will give the public the impression that those engaged in this type of practice exist only in the Liberal and Conservative parties. I do not believe that is right, and it is not true.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Roxburgh: Mr. Chairman, that is the very reason I asked the question I did, to which the hon. member for Kootenay West did not reply although he said he would. I am sure everybody in the house agrees with what the hon. member and the minister said. I certainly do. We are all for it. But as the hon. member for Ontario has just said, it is most unfair and is just not right to leave this matter in the air. The hon. member for Kootenay West should name the men he has in mind. If he would like the names of members of other parties, perhaps that information can be supplied to him.

Mr. Starr: Supply it. Let us get the record straight.

Mr. Barnett: Mr. Chairman, I think the opinion expressed by the hon. member for Ontario is well founded. But if I heard the hon. member for Kootenay West aright, he was speaking of members of past parliaments and was not making reference to present members.

Mr. Ricard: Let him give the information.

• (4:20 p.m.)

Mr. Barnett: The hon. member for Kootenay West can speak for himself, of course. I presume that the remarks made by the hon. member for Ontario and the hon. member for Norfolk were intended to indicate that the hon. member for Kootenay West had referred to members of certain other parties and had not referred to members of this party. I understood that the hon. member for Kootenay West was referring to members of past parliaments. It is a simple fact, which can be readily verified, that only very recently have there been members of the legal profession in the party to which I belong. I refer, of course, to members of my party who have become members of parliament. As far as I am concerned I am not claiming any particular virtues in regard to moral behaviour for the party to which I belong. If the remarks of the