

his capital, that it wastes his means, then he will not endorse that policy. No class of the electorate will vote for them. If they take the manufacturers, these must distinctly vote against them, because they have called them thieves and robbers; if they take the farmers, they make no provision for the protection of the farmers in their policy, therefore they will be against them. If they take the labourers, the labourers know that their policy will reduce their opportunities for work, therefore the labourers must be against them. The artisan must be against them, the commercial class must be against them, and, certainly, all the intelligent classes of the community will be against them. Then, where do they expect to get their support? I say they will find, in the future, as they have found in the past, that the policy they have laid down to-day will relegate them again to the cold shades of Opposition; and the Conservative party, I am quite satisfied, will be returned to power again, as they have been several times in the past, with an overwhelming majority of the people of this country at their back.

Mr. BAIN (Wentworth). In rising to discuss the issues that are presented to the House this afternoon, the question of how we shall raise the necessary money for the purpose of administering the affairs of this country for the ensuing year, and the proposition of the hon. member for South Oxford, as opposed to that of the Minister of Finance, I have only to say that I am distinctly in favour of the proposition of the hon. member for South Oxford. In that respect I differ somewhat from the hon. gentleman from East Grey (Mr. Sproule), who has just taken his seat. I differ from him in several other matters, but I am able to agree with him when he lays a tribute of respect upon the grave of our departed Premier; because, I hold that the members of the Opposition respect the worth of that hon. gentleman, and realize the loss that Canada has sustained in his death, just as deeply as the hon. member for Grey ever could. While I congratulate the Minister of Finance upon his promotion to the leadership of this House, I have also to express my regret that, for the first time in my parliamentary experience we have been deprived of the presence of the actual leader in our midst, and I have found these double duties devolving upon the Minister of Finance. Now, I believe that, however much that hon. gentleman may display his ability in handling the finances of this country, it is not in the interest of his political party, nor of this country, that such a combination should exist. We now find the Premier sitting in another Chamber which is in no wise directly responsible to the people, and entirely independent of them in any form, and he is accompanied by the hon. gentleman who controls the one department that,

perhaps, involves greater interests than all the other departments combined. I refer to the Department of Agriculture. When we find the lawyer who is the head of that branch of our service, is also located in the Senate, away from any contact with public sentiment, away from associations with the people's representatives, I think it will be found, under these circumstances, that the public interest will distinctly suffer. When I heard the hon. gentleman who has just taken his seat, deliver his singular utterance with respect to the people's choice of a man to represent the county of Antigonish in succession to the late Premier, it occurred to me that no more scathing criticism could be administered to his political party. Granted that half of what he said with respect to that hon. gentleman was true, which I do not grant, it merely shows that after the Minister of Justice went down into the county of Antigonish, and after they had put a family relative of the deceased Premier into the field to secure for him the sympathy and support of the circumstances under which the late Premier passed away, the people of Antigonish, in face of the policy advocated by that hon. gentleman, refused to elect their man, and sent my hon. friend here to support the Liberal party. And yet my hon. friend from Grey comes down, and he, of all men in this House, says: "How have the mighty fallen!" It is words, only words.

Before proceeding to criticise the mode in which the Minister of Finance proposes to raise money for the next year, I want to say a few words about the position my hon. friend assumes to our party, on this side of the House. He told us a very amusing story about a man out in the Western States, who, astride of a very bad horse, was riding around the country in a very indefinite manner, and he thought it would be a long time before he would overtake the Lord in that way. It occurred to me that that incident might have been applied a good deal nearer home, and not so very long ago. I remember when there was an enormous activity in political circles; I remember when this Government was hastening the preparation of the voters' lists of this Dominion, and circulars were sent out to the revising officers to get their work done at the appointed time. An extra staff of printers were employed in the department for the purpose of hastening on the preparation of these voters' lists, and have them all ready. For what purpose? Presumably for an appeal to the people. Every other kind of business was suspended, but suddenly there came an Order in Council to call us together here in session; and the Secretary of State has presented a Bill to the House to make these voters' lists good and valid for the current year, so that we need not take the trouble to revise them during this summer. Was all that gone through