

science is all wrong. He spoke of the League of Nations. The greatest benefit to mankind would be to set all those greybeards in Geneva on fire. This is free advice to humanity. Let us get rid of all those hair-splitters and the world will be the better for it. Let us go to the orient for wisdom. Let us see what a new premier, full of oriental wisdom, says. A conciliator takes the helm in Japan. Hirota, the new premier, says that he believes in applying common sense to statecraft. This is exactly what the hon. Minister of Labour said some time ago. Let us apply common sense. I know some old people who had not the advantage of learning how to read and write but who are full of wisdom. We call them people who give good advice. The patriarchs and the wise men of old very probably never knew how to read and write. They were full of wisdom; they were not full of learning. Let the hon. gentleman who spoke to us of science and the application of science to politics withdraw that advice, because very often those who mention scientific ways for recovery forget that the foundation of all things is very simple common sense. It is so simple that it is often ignored.

People are under the impression at times that recovery will be quicker if some remedies are applied and that the remedy is the better if you know nothing about it. It has been said before when this party was in opposition that a mistake of some so-called scientists was to try to apply to the country as a whole a new experiment. Hon. members know very well how Pasteur, Claude Bernard, Lister, all the real scientists of the world, have proceeded. They have begun with the infinitely small. They have conducted their first experiments on a very small scale. If those experiments were successful they widened the scope gradually. Then, having scientifically proved in accordance with reason and common sense that their first small experiment was right, they applied it on a larger scale, and people came from other countries to get the benefit of their wisdom.

Some comparison has been made between Canada and England. Is any comparison possible between this country and England? Take the British metropolis, the city of London. There in a few square miles you have an agglomeration of people which is nearly as large as the whole Canadian population, which is spread over thousands of miles. Conditions are not at all the same. Moreover Great Britain is an industrialist country, while Canada is very largely, at least to the extent of one-half, a farming country. Therefore there is a great difference between the two.

[Mr. Pouliot.]

May I take advantage of this occasion to tell the committee why at times I am misinterpreted when I speak about individuals who belong to the civil service? I have no grudge against anyone, but there is a principle that cannot be forgotten. It is *salus populi, suprema lex*. The supreme law is the salvation of the country. When there is an obstacle in the way it shall be removed at any cost. There shall be no consideration of friendship, no consideration of snobbism, no consideration of privilege, no consideration of petting or padding. I remember that at college there were some schoolmates who were always around the regents, the teachers and the professors, telling them how wrong the other pupils were and how right they themselves were. We called them "cats," "des chats." We do not need that kind of people to give advice, technical or otherwise, to the government. There are some very able men in the service, but those who have taken advantage of their position to impose upon the government policies that have brought this country to the verge of ruin and bankruptcy should be chastised, and a man should not escape because he had a salary of \$10,000 or \$15,000.

I say that, sir, to impress upon the government the importance of considering the value of a man according to his accomplishments and especially according to his degree of common sense. I prefer a man who has common sense, though he may not know how to read and write, to a so-called scientist who is just a crank. The first man may be filled with wisdom. Here, sir, we have a pest of doctors, a doctor for this and a doctor for that. Even in official papers we see some people who call themselves doctors of law who got their degrees from a university which does not give lectures in law. That is one instance, and it is most absurd. We do not need doctors; we need wise men, full of common sense. The Minister of Labour is one, and I am sure there are many others. Not only is the minister a man of common sense; he is a learned man. He knows more than reading and writing, which proves that one can have a great degree of instruction and education and be at the same time a wise man. But, sir, I warn the government against all these so-called scientists who are responsible for the social legislation that was the curse of this country last year and that will continue to be the curse of the country until it is repealed or declared *ultra vires* by the proper court. Not one of those men who imposed that legislation upon the right hon. leader of the government of the time, and upon his cabinet, should be kept in