

Burden placed upon Members of Parliament far too great

And this leads me to say a word as to the burden placed upon members of parliament, apart from their duties in watching the interests of their constituents in parliament and participating in parliamentary debates. Instead of a member of parliament being regarded by his constituents as their servant, whom they should relieve as largely as possible of burdens, and assist in every possible way, a member, in many constituencies comes to be looked upon as the one individual who is expected to make contributions to every local charity, social and fair, to do work that is required in the way of entertainment, to be present and make gifts at weddings, to be present and send wreaths at funerals, to organize and support local political clubs, to see that constituents are supplied with copies of speeches of himself and others, and when the time of elections comes round to bear the brunt of the expense of the campaign. No wonder it is difficult to find suitable candidates, and no wonder candidates look for assistance from outside the constituency to help them in their political battles. It is a fact that members of parliament have been taxing themselves, and paying out of their indemnities monies needed to maintain the semblance of a national office, and to distribute reprints of Hansard, in addition to the thousand and one other obligations they are expected to assume in their

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