

him to be a man of the very highest character. Mr. McCallum is evidently a favourite, or perhaps they had his Scotch pertinacity in view, and knew he was ready, like all Highlandmen, to fight his battles against all attacks. They have left him upon four. He is highly honoured. Mr. McHugh is left upon two; Mr. McKay (Turo) upon three, Mr. McLaren on two, Mr. McMillan on three, Mr. McMullen on three, Railways, Internal Economy and Divorce; Mr. McSweeney upon three, Mr. Merner, two. Mr. Miller seems to have been the greatest favourite of them all. He is on five committees. He might, with that generosity which usually characterizes him, fairly divest himself of a little of the responsibility and throw it upon others who are not upon any committee, if he thought proper to do so. I find no fault with his being on five. He is one of the oldest members we have here.

Hon. Mr. MILLER—I acted upon the principle laid down by my hon. friend that neither himself nor any of his friends would assume any responsibility with regard to striking the committees. We would allow the work to be done by the government and allow the government to assume the responsibility, and therefore I did not interfere.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—Quite right. That was the principle we laid down. When the hon. gentleman made the proposition to us that they were entitled to so many upon the committees, I denied it in the beginning. I said they were not entitled to it numerically or politically, but they happened to have a majority at the time, and having a majority they had the power, and having the power they exercised it, and they wanted the minority to take the responsibility of striking off the names of our friends from the committees, which we declined to do, and we allowed them to assume the responsibility. So that the statement made by my hon. friend was quite correct. Mr. O'Donohoe is left upon three; Mr. Owens upon two, and Sir Alphonse Pelletier and my hon. friend Mr. Miller are the favourite ones. These are the only two gentlemen in the Senate upon five committees, so that the Hon. Sir Alphonse Pelletier can go hand in hand with my hon. friend on my left.

Hon. Mr. COCHRANE—The hon. gentleman did not ask to be on any committee, so he got more; I did ask and got nothing.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—He got more than he asked. I do not believe he ever asked to be put on any of those committees, but while my hon. friend to his right did ask to be put on a committee that request was refused. The Hon. Mr. Poirier is on two committees; Mr. Perley, two, and the hon. the Speaker of the Senate—and here there is a departure from the usual practice that has prevailed since I have been in the Senate—has been placed upon the Internal Economy Committee; and also upon the Library Committee. I believe that is always the case, because the two Speakers are upon that committee, and our Speaker is also upon that important Committee, the Restaurant. Mr. Primrose is upon three; Mr. James Reid, two; Mr. Robertson, two, and the Secretary of State upon two. I must give the Secretary of State credit for having declined to be placed upon some of the committees that required some little attention, some little work and some little study. He thought he had sufficient to do in his department and could not spend time looking after the committees. Mr. Shehyn is upon three. My hon. friend behind me (Hon. Mr. Sullivan) made a special request to be placed upon the Railway Committee, and was refused, although it was pointed out that it was his special request to be on that committee. It is true that during his illness he was not able to attend the meetings of the committees, but it was pointed out that during the last session of parliament, when he had recovered his health sufficiently, he was one of the most attentive members of the committees to which he was appointed. However, that did not prevail, and the consequence was that he was reduced to the Committee on Private Bills, although he has had a seat in the House no less than 18 years, while some gentlemen who have just been introduced have been placed on three or four committees. Mr. A. A. Thibaudeau is upon one committee. The hon. gentleman (Hon. Mr. Templeman), not a very old member but a very important one, I admit, is the gentleman who did more, or one of the gentlemen who did, I think, the most—I do not think I am accusing him wrongfully—in the arrangement of these committees.