

believe that most of the discussion of the subject in this House was not calculated to reassure policy-holders or create that trust in the management of our insurance companies that ought to exist. I think it is to be regretted that a slur should be cast upon many of our old line companies, and that they should have been hampered in their business to the extent that they have been in the last eighteen months by this ill-advised commission with its ill-advised findings. The whole matter has been tied up, the country has been held up, and the insurance people to-day are not doing anything like the usual amount of business, because suspicion has been cast upon their methods and managements, and it has been stated that they are not going to be allowed to do this, that and the other in the future. All this is to be regretted. It goes to show that it is easier to pull a man down than to make him a success; it is easier to cast a slur upon his work than to give him back his reputation after it has been taken from him by wrong means. The insurance business in this country should be rehabilitated and those with money invested should be given in it a fair chance to go on and do their work.

Now, I must hasten on. The last question I have to deal with is the statement that we are to have an improvement in our electoral methods. I am glad to know that the government is to take hold of that matter. I did not think it looked very promising when I saw the recent additions to the cabinet. So far as Ontario is concerned, I do not look for any great results from these additions. I may be mistaken; I am not going to speak a disparaging word of our good friend from Brockville (Mr. Graham), but I want to remind this House and the country that that hon. gentleman came to the support of the Ross government in its dying days and made himself responsible for thirty-two years of corrupt work. He was in office in the Ross government just about three months, and I do not know that he is going to be in his present position much longer than that. It has been said that he came in as a pallbearer for the Ross government, and that he is now here to do the same work for the present administration.

But I say that I cannot hail with satisfaction nor delight the idea that we are going to have a change made in that line, because this gentleman has been selected for the very reason that I have stated. Sir, let it be understood that so far as Ontario is concerned we mean business. We have got a government there that are going to see that honest elections are conducted whether this government want them or not. We are already doing it in Ontario, and what is going on in respect to the London election is only a sample. We thank Providence that we have in Ontario at last a government that is going to make all these

gentlemen do their duty in that respect. We have got a government in power there that is not going to shield the wrong-doer, the ballot switcher, the ballot stuffer, the man that purchases a vote, or miscounts a vote. That is the kind of government we have in Ontario to-day, and it is a warning to these gentlemen that whether the other provinces in the Dominion run a straight election the next time or not, we are going to have a straight election in Ontario. We are not afraid of a straight election, we are only afraid of rascality. The hon. gentleman has told us to-day that we are 'another,' that we do the same. Well, let him point the finger of scorn to a single act of the Whitney government has done now in three years. Has there been any ballot burning, ballot switching, ballot stealing, ballot purchasing, in any of the by-elections that have been held? Is there one instance? Is there any under Roblin in Manitoba, or under McBride in British Columbia? Show us wherein we are all alike. We are not in the same swim and we would be sorry to take power by such means as have held these gentlemen in power during the past few years. I say to the Finance Minister we are not all alike.

Mr. FIELDING. My hon. friend need hardly attack me on behalf of the Whitney government. All I said about the Whitney government was to defend them from the attack of the leader of the opposition in the subsidy matter.

Mr. COCKSHUTT. They scarcely need the defence of the hon. gentleman at the present time. He has quite enough of his own to defend just now. For our part, we commend to his attention some of those matters to which he did not find time to address himself in the speech from the Throne. I think he will find that he has not touched the cardinal situation, and he will get some criticism in quarters that will be able to judge of his levity in dealing with the speech from the Throne on this occasion.

Now I say that we invite good men of all parties to unite in seeing that we get honest and straightforward elections, a straight count, an honest ballot, no stealing, no switching, no purchasing. That is the kind of fight we want. I have already stated in my own convention, and I say that here to-day, that I do not want to win an election on any other lines. I would rather stay at home, and I believe there are many men on both sides of the House that will take the same stand. We have heard the stand that Mr. Watts has taken up in British Columbia, who has recently offered to do something in cleaning up election matters. He has offered to subscribe \$5,000 towards punishing those who transgress the law. That is practical Christianity, and clean politics besides. I hope we can