

way in Victoria and the acquisition of a railway in Richmond and its extension to Sydney and Louisburg, would involve an amount which would be a mere bagatelle compared with the enormous expenditure which the Government are undertaking with respect to the Canadian Northern proposition. If this Government were actuated by a desire to serve the public interest, and not simply by a desire to serve party interest, they would adopt the statesman-like plan of dealing once and for all with the railway problems of this country and giving the people from Sydney to Vancouver a railway, if not owned, at least controlled by the Government and affording to communities served by branch railways, especially in the Maritime Provinces, the advantages with respect to freight rates that are enjoyed by those who live along the line of the Intercolonial railway.

But I am very much afraid that the Government are not actuated in the interest of the public, are not so much interested in the cause of Allies when they bring forward a policy of conscription as they are anxious to bring in a policy that will excite the minds of the people of this country and, while the minds of the people are excited on the question of conscription, they hope to put over such deals as the Canadian Northern deal, which they are in a fair way of accomplishing. But the Finance Minister and the Prime Minister are deceiving themselves if they think they can get away with these deals under the shadow and under the concealment of a conscription law. The Government, when they appeal to the people, will be dealt with upon their record, and their record is not one to invite strong support in any section of this country. It will not be forgotten by the people of this country that from 1914 to 1917 the Department of Militia and the whole war machinery of this country have been operated almost solely with a view to party advantage and to placing in the hands of the party friends the largest possible percentage of the public moneys voted for war purposes by this Parliament. The whole conduct of the Government with respect to these fiscal and other matters which are vitally interesting to the people of this country will be dealt with when the time comes. They will deal with the question of the Canadian Northern railway and the efforts of the Government to pay to the Canadian Northern railway good money out of the treasury of this country for stock that is not worth one dollar, according to

[Mr. Kyte.]

the report of the commissioners appointed by the Government to inquire into it.

I am afraid that by any appeal I may make to the Finance Minister to go a little further with his railway policy, inasmuch as he has adopted a very reckless policy with respect to the Canadian Northern railway will not be heard. I shall not succeed in influencing him to throw his partisanship aside for the moment and deal fairly and equitably with counties represented by liberal members, as well as giving railway accommodation to friends and supporters of the Government in various constituencies in Canada. But, as I said, there is a ray of hope. The 7th of October will soon come, and disillusion will come then; the people of this country will have an opportunity of dealing with this Government upon its merits not only as regards conscription but as regards every other matter of policy in which they have betrayed the interests of this country.

Sir THOMAS WHITE: I beg to move that further consideration of clause 4, with amendment, be postponed, and that the title of the Bill be now considered.

Mr. OLIVER: Is it intended that an amendment such as this shall be put through as a part of the section?

Sir THOMAS WHITE: I have included them both in my motion.

Mr. PUGSLEY: You are putting it through by closure; the whole thing is done without consideration of the clauses.

Mr. OLIVER: Is it the intention, when the consideration of the section is resumed, that the amendment and the section shall be considered together or will they be considered separately as is usual, and as is absolutely necessary to give reasonable consideration to the question?

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: The amendment will be voted on and then the section as amended will be voted on.

Mr. OLIVER: Is it understood that the amendment will be considered by itself, that is, will be discussed separately from the section, or will there be a single discussion on the section and the amendment?

Sir THOMAS WHITE: A single discussion.

Sir ROBERT BORDEN: A discussion on the section and the amendment at the same time.

Mr. OLIVER: At the same time? I submit that is not according to the rule of dis-