

tunity of doing the right thing by themselves—gave them a franchise that eliminated nobody. But do not misunderstand me, honourable gentlemen. I am not referring to any one province in this Dominion. There were men all over Canada, and there are men all over Canada to-day, who should not have a vote, and if I had power to keep them off the voters' list, I would do so.

Speaking about the franchise, let me give you an illustration. My honourable friend is a great admirer of the Hon. Mr. Fielding, who was the Minister of Finance in the Laurier Administration, and a man who was looked upon as the next leader; and, as leaders go in that party, I think he would be all right—for that party. He was looked upon as the ablest man in the party, the man who would take the place of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. I will tell my honourable friend something about his Election Act. What do you suppose that gentleman did when he became premier of Nova Scotia? He passed an Act that eliminated every employee of the Dominion Government from the exercise of the franchise. He did not take away the franchise of the men who were engaged by the Local Government, but he took away the franchise of every Civil Servant in that province who was employed by the Dominion Government.

Hon. Mr. MURPHY: Our Liberal Government did the same thing.

Hon. Mr. CROSBY: Yes, they are all alike. But I would ask my honourable friend if he would consider that that was a fair and decent way of acting. I am sure he would not. Silence gives consent. He would say that was an outrage. But what do you suppose the Liberals did after they came into power in 1896, and before they went to the country in 1900? Did they not enfranchise the Dominion officials so that they would be able to pull them in to vote for them in 1900? Yet the honourable gentleman comes here and talks about the franchise and about the stealing of elections. Why, it is outrageous, it is unfair, it is unreasonable; and it is something which would not be expected from a man of the experience of my honourable friend from De Lorimier, because from his appearance and his personality you would expect better from him than that he would talk of matters of that kind when he himself knows that if there have been in this country any elections that have been—I was

going to say, a disgrace, but perhaps that would be too strong a word—if there have been any elections misleading to the people, they are the elections with which he has been connected and in which he has been engaged head and shoulders. I have no hesitation in saying that.

My honourable friend spoke the other day about the Government going to the country. The Postmaster General (Hon. Mr. Blondin) gave us the information, which I know is true, that the honourable gentleman from De Lorimier had never tried going to the country himself, unless perhaps it were for a holiday down by a stream; that is to say, the honourable gentleman had never accepted a nomination. Whether he had ever been offered one or not, I do not know; the Postmaster General did not tell us about that. At any rate he told us the honourable member from De Lorimier had never run in an election. Why, then, is he so anxious about going to the country? Perhaps if he had to run in an election he would not be so anxious about that. Well, there were some men who went to the country, and I cannot see where the honourable gentleman would derive any consolation from the result. We had an election in the province of Nova Scotia since the Meighen government came in. The people down there did not know much about Mr. Meighen, but he came down there and when they saw him they liked him, and what he said to them they believed in, and they believe in it still. I refer to that splendid county of Colchester, a farming county second to none in the Dominion of Canada. I see my honourable friend here is smiling. I do not care whether Ontario or any other province is included; I say that the county of Colchester as a farming district is second to none in the Dominion of Canada, and if I had to go further and provide proof of that, I should be prepared to produce it. I do not mean to say that it has as many people as some other counties, but I refer to its standing in reference to its population. The Liberal party could not get a man to accept nomination and contest the election in that county; but they did throw in their whole weight, and the Labour party did the same thing. I do not want to be misunderstood about the Labour party, because I am one of the labour class myself; but, like my honourable friend from De Lorimier, the Labour men go wrong sometimes, I have no hesitation in saying. But I am as faithful to the labour interests in the Dominion of