

friends who first used some of these expressions about the people of the west. He might inquire at the same time whether or not there were not in the Liberal Association of Toronto among the six or seven thousand Liberals of Centre Toronto, twenty-five men who could put up a candidate at the recent election. And were there not \$200 for the purpose of furnishing the deposit, and if there were not \$200 to furnish the deposit would not the hon. gentleman himself have been good enough to provide that money for the purpose?

Mr. PATERSON. That would not have shown the feeling in the Northwest.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. I understand the hon. gentleman claims that the sentiment of the people of Ontario on this question is in favour of the government.

Mr. PATERSON. I claim that the feeling of the people in Edmonton is, because there were not five men found.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. I am not asking about the feeling of the people in Edmonton; I am asking the hon. gentleman as premier minister of this cabinet for Ontario whether or not he understands that the sentiment of the people of Ontario is in support of the government on this question?

Mr. PATERSON. I cannot tell until the test is made, but when the test is made if the result is as it was in Edmonton, I will say yes.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. Was he not anxious to have a test made?

Mr. PATERSON. In Edmonton, yes.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. For the purpose of ascertaining the feeling of the people of Ontario?

Mr. PATERSON. Was not the hon. gentleman anxious to have a test in Edmonton?

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. The hon. gentleman was anxious to introduce this question and we will give it a Dominion wide range. I ask him, as premier minister for Ontario, whether he believes the sentiment in that province to be against the government on this question? He can answer or not as he sees fit.

Mr. PATERSON. I have given an answer.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. The answer he gave was that he tests that in Edmonton.

Mr. PATERSON. I am saying that if the result is as in Edmonton, yes.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. I am asking what his contention is. The hon. gentleman is not so voluble as he was a moment ago.

Mr. PATERSON. Quite so, I want to know about these five people in Edmonton. That is what I want to know.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. The hon. gentleman will not leave that. As a minister of the

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Cabinet, representing Ontario he sits dumb in his seat and will not answer questions as to the sentiment in Ontario. We will leave him at that. I want to say to the Minister of the Interior, so far as any abuse of Edmonton or its people is concerned, I heard nothing of it from the hon. member for East Elgin (Mr. Ingram). That gentleman quoted altogether. He quoted in the first place from the census. I do not know whether the Minister of the Interior claims that the census contains any abuse of Edmonton. He quoted next from certain documents printed by the government at the printing office, Ottawa. I do not suppose he claims there is any abuse in these. The only other quotations he made were from the remarks of the minister himself, and if there was any abuse it was contained in the remarks of the Minister of the Interior.

Mr. OLIVER. Would the hon. member tell us the purpose of the quotations of the hon. member for East Elgin (Mr. Ingram) from the census and the other reports?

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. A more worthy purpose than that which was in the mind of the Minister of the Interior when he accused the member for East Elgin (Mr. Ingram) of heaping abuse on the people of that country.

Mr. OLIVER. I have asked the hon. member a straight question, but he has not seen fit to give me a straight answer. He can give me a straight answer or he will have to accept the judgment that he is short either on hearing or understanding.

Mr. INGRAM. I wish to say here now that I challenge the Minister of the Interior to put his finger on one word of abuse of any elector, or about any elector in the Edmonton district in my remarks, because I recognized the character of the man I have to deal with. His conduct and his language has been such since he has returned as a minister of the Crown that I am sure no man in this House can fail to see and admit that it is rather beneath the dignity of a minister of the Crown. It might be used by a back bencher.

Mr. OLIVER. Hear, hear.

Mr. INGRAM. The hon. gentleman until quite recently filled a back bench and perhaps I would not be saying too much if I were to say that is where he properly belongs at this moment, and I will go further and say that if the geographical position of the Northwest Territories had not been represented by the hon. gentleman and the complexion of that particular district as I have already referred to this afternoon had not been favourable to the government the hon. gentleman would be occupying a less important seat than that which he occupies now. But the hon. gentleman had to refer to some personal affairs; he could not treat this in a way that would be dignified and worthy of a minister of the Crown, he had to make some personal references. I do not think any one