

country, I want at least the same respectful attention that is given to any Roman Catholic who stands up and speaks on behalf of the Roman Catholics of this country.

Mr. FINLAYSON. I, as a Protestant, deny the hon. gentleman's right to speak for me.

Mr. SPROULE. I am not talking to the hon. gentleman. All I ask hon. gentlemen opposite is to treat me with courtesy as I do them. I want to quote what is put out by Reform papers, which, on this question represent, I assume, the Minister of Finance and his party.

Mr. FIELDING. Will my hon. friend allow me to say that he must not quote anything from any paper and assume that it is authorized to speak for me. The 'Canada Gazette' is my only organ.

Mr. SPROULE. The hon. gentleman has gone back on the 'Globe' lately, and I think he has gone back on everything else that represents his party, because he knows what is coming.

Mr. FIELDING. No; I do not.

Mr. SPROULE. Let me tell him what is coming. We choose to represent what we believe to be the sentiment of the majority of the people of this country. How are we met when we are doing our duty? Is it courteously? Here is what the Halifax 'Chronicle' says with regard to Centre Toronto, and the members of the association I represent in this House, the chief Liberal journal of Nova Scotia:

The Liberal party has more important business on hand than the vain wooing of yellow-dog constituencies.

That is said with regard to Centre Toronto. 'Yellow-dog constituencies'—what is meant by that? The Orangemen of Canada, whose colour happens to be orange.

Some hon. MEMBERS. No, no.

Mr. SPROULE. Let some one speak who knows what he is talking about. The article goes on:

The Liberal party is not running an opposition peanut stand. Neither is it butting its head against yellow-dog walls for the entertainment of yellow dogs in general.

That is the characterization of a class and a society which, I will venture to say, is composed, on the average, of as respectable citizens as can be found in Canada to-day, and fully one-half of whom, in the maritime provinces, have in the past been supporters of the Minister of Finance's friends, and have voted for them over and over again.

Mr. FIELDING. If my hon. friend will permit me. I happen to know one gentleman connected with the Halifax 'Chronicle,' whom I know to be an Orangeman, and I

Mr. SPROULE.

cannot imagine that any such meaning is to be attached to that article.

Mr. SPROULE. Will the hon. gentleman deny that it appeared in the 'Chronicle'?

Mr. FIELDING. It may have; I cannot deny it.

Mr. SPROULE (reading):

That is why it did not go through the useless form of putting up a candidate in yellow-dog Centre Toronto, while the whole inclosed pack was in a state bordering on political hydrophobia.

That is very respectable and very entertaining, as levelled against a very important element of the Protestant community of the Dominion of Canada. How far will every hon. member supporting the Liberal party from Ontario, from British Columbia, from Manitoba, from the Northwest Territories, endorse that sentiment? Are they prepared to endorse it and stand by it? They do endorse it by their conduct in this House, because from the first word I have spoken on this question to the present I have been treated as though I ought to be ostracized from society, as though I was unworthy of respect in this House. Whenever I have spoken as representing the Orange element of this country, sneers have been heaped on me without number, invectives, the strongest that could be found in the English language, have been hurled against me, everything I have said has been treated with disdain or contempt for the 'yellow-dog' element, which is the Orange element of this country. That element is too strong to-day to take these insults as compliments, and I want to tell hon. gentlemen that when I speak for them I speak for 500,000 intelligent citizens of Canada, who will resent these insults when the time comes, and will speak out with no uncertain sound. When that day does come, I can invite either the Minister of Finance, or the Minister of Justice, or the Minister of Customs, to say whether they or their friends were discreet in heaping abuse on the 'yellow-dog' element, the Orange element of this country. They have been giped at and insulted in this House. Every invective that could be used is used against them, and now we are told to-day that they represent a class of people who are bordering on hydrophobia, that they are an element which should be kept down, that they are arousing strife and kindling a fire. I ask who started the fire?

Mr. A. JOHNSTON. You did.

Mr. SPROULE. I say the hon. gentleman is wrong. Who started the fire but the party that introduced this Bill; and then, when we ring the fire alarm to extinguish it, we are accused of fanning the flame. For the last 37 years, what has been the history of the introduction of these questions in this House? Almost every time these dis-