

taxes the people of the west had to pay to this Dominion government. He estimated last year at from \$40 to \$100 per family the amount that the people of the west paid in customs taxes to this government. This government says: you shall not only pay \$100 per family in customs taxes but you shall pay the exemption of the Canadian Pacific Railway in your own country. The member for West Assiniboia says this is a great grievance. Well, if it is a great grievance it is entitled to a remedy, it can be remedied in some way. Now I will make this suggestion; that before this Act is passed the government ought to make an intimation that under this clause 20 of the contract that I have read, they will pass an Act referring this whole question to the Board of Railway Commissioners for ascertainment of the actual cost of that railway, and that under that clause they will see whether the time has not come for a reduction or regulation of the tolls of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. The interests that my hon. friend represents in this House are so wide and so varied and so much of his time is taken up making speeches that he appears to be in entire ignorance of the things that have been going on during recent sessions. He is probably in ignorance of the fact that a session or two ago it was decided to refer this very clause to the Supreme Court so that we might ascertain in what our rights are in regard to the regulation of rates on the Canadian Pacific Railway. He is probably also in ignorance of the fact that some months ago the Canadian Pacific Railway agreed to submit their rates to the supervision and control of the Board of Railway Commissioners and they are now in the same position as any other company in respect to their rates.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. Under that clause a commutation of these rights to exemption might have been obtained. As it is nothing has been done. Their rates are not being regulated.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. They are being regulated.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. The jurisdiction may be in the Railway Commission, but nothing has been done. The Canadian Pacific Railway are not having their rates regulated, but they are having their exemption protected in a way in which they should not be protected in this Act. It is all very fine to say that something has been done, but it is the old story of neglecting the settler and protecting the capitalists and vested rights. It is not sound public policy that these things should be continued. I hear the hon. Postmaster General (Sir William Mulock) say 'hear, hear.'

Sir WILLIAM MULOCK. I made no such observation.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. Then the hon. gentleman agrees with me and he will join

with me in weeping for the farmer of the west. He used to weep for the farmer in Ontario, for the widow and the orphan.

Sir WILLIAM MULOCK. No, I do not agree with such rubbish.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. The hon. Minister of Justice does not give up his time, and he does not—

Mr. FITZPATRICK. I think you might weep a little for those who have to listen to this.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. The hon. Minister of Justice should weep for the people of the west and for this legislation, because, if there is anything that the Liberal party ought to be ashamed of, it is in the passing of this legislation binding these new provinces. The right hon. leader of the government (Sir Wilfrid Laurier) introduced his Bill by saying that he was laying the corner stone of complete autonomy in these new provinces. Where is that autonomy? He is restricting them in the matter of schools, restricting them in the matter of municipal and provincial rights, restricting them in the matter of their boundaries, laying down a schedule of constituencies, limiting them in every way and robbing them of their lands although all the other provinces have been given their lands.

Sir WILLIAM MULOCK. Was Manitoba given its lands?

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. No, it asked for them, but it could not get them. The Conservative government refused them. The hon. gentleman cannot justify himself in wrong doing by pointing to the Acts of the Conservative party. The Conservative party was not an immaculate party, it was guilty of many mistakes and because it did make mistakes my hon. friend says that he may commit every mistake in the calendar, that he may violate every commandment of the decalogue because Sir John Macdonald or some one else did this.

Sir WILLIAM MULOCK. The hon. gentleman supported them in their wrong doing. The hon. gentleman belonged to the Liberal party until that act was done, but as soon as the Conservative party was guilty of a wicked act he joined that party.

Mr. LEMIEUX. Explain.

Mr. W. F. MACLEAN. I can explain. I regret the sins of my adolescence and I am trying to redeem myself and to lead a better life, but here is the hon. Postmaster General getting up in years and to-day he is glorying in the fact that he is imitating the sins of those who preceded him. I am willing to be judged by the people of the country as between my record and conduct and that of the hon. gentleman in the past, and I say that the government to-day in passing this Act of complete autonomy for these two new provinces, in putting the