

vote. In this instance the question is two-fold. The first question is, whether it is desirable to reserve property for a national park, as to which, on certain conditions, we are agreed. The second question is, whether the Government had the right, under the statute, to appropriate the money they did appropriate by Governor General's warrant, as to which we are entirely disagreed. And I may add, that the Minister of the Interior did certainly promise, as the *Hansard* shows, to bring down an estimate of the cost when we went into committee. I have not heard the hon. gentleman bring down any such estimate, nor have I heard him deny the accuracy of the report in the *Hansard*, which my hon. friend has just read. More than that, the hon. gentleman at that time informed the House that this property was not covered by the claims of the Canadian Pacific Railway. It was a natural mistake, perhaps, but to-day the hon. gentleman has to come and tell us that of this property which is proposed to be reserved as a national park, a considerable quantity, how much he does not appear to know, belongs to the Canadian Pacific Railway. I think the hon. member for Montreal (Sir Donald A. Smith) might have shed some light upon the subject, and to him I put the question before the House rose; but he is not in his place, so that he cannot give me this information. It would appear that this national park is to be a thing of shreds and patches, to borrow a favorite phrase of the First Minister. A part of it has gone from us in the shape of coal lands, as to which I must say that unless those coal lands are the only ones of equal value situated in the North-West, I have doubts as to the wisdom of their remaining in private hands in the centre of the park. Then we find that leases have been made, and I did not notice that the Minister of the Interior gave us any information in detail as to the leases of the sanitarium. He stated, he admitted, that some of these portions of land had been leased to Dr. Brett—I think the name was, but I did not hear him give any details of these leases. He gave details of the timber limit leases, and one or two other matters, but not of the mode in which these portions which belong to the sanitarium had been leased, which it is of some consequence for us to know. With these lands, in addition to the coal lands and the timber limits, which may be cancelled, the hon. gentleman admits that there is this unknown quantity in the hands of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Now, I must say that I think if we are to have a national park, I agree with the hon. member for East Hastings (Mr. Burdett) that we ought to have the whole of it, we ought to control the whole of it, we ought not to sell it, and I believe, as was suggested by several gentlemen on both sides of the House, it ought to be leased on short terms, as is done in the case of the Yellowstone Park, but we ought not to part with control, for any length of time, of property which it is proposed to reserve for the benefit of the people. Now, I think if the Minister will look at his own statement he will see that we are quite in our right in saying that he distinctly gave us to understand that he would give us an estimate, and that is all that he has been asked for in the first instance, at any rate from this side of the House.

Mr. WHITE (Cardwell). I confess to some disappointment that a question of this kind should be made a subject of party controversy in this House. The establishment of a national park is surely one of those questions that we might discuss on both sides of the House without the slightest reference to party, certainly without imputation of corrupt motives which came, at least from one of the hon. gentlemen on that side. That accusation was so broadly put, so insultingly put, that I declined to answer any further questions of that hon. gentleman, although I recognise his right as a member of Parliament to ask any question he pleases. The question, however, that the member for South Oxford (Sir Richard Cartwright) has put in relation to the expenditure and the general statements made as to the expendi-

tures to which the scheme might give rise, imply to some extent, at any rate, an estimate as to the future. The expenditures which have been made up to now, very largely, if not entirely, meet the necessities of the park until now, but in the meantime it is absolutely necessary—I am not dealing with the constitutional question which the hon. gentleman raised, and to which I will refer in a moment—but it was absolutely necessary, if we were going to make this park of use at all, that certain works should be prosecuted in connection with it, that certain roads should be built, and a bridge across the Bow River, that a thorough survey of the park should take place, and that works for the conduct of the water down to the different points should be undertaken. The cave spring, which everyone who has seen it recognises as a natural curiosity, as well as of wonderful curative properties, should be made in such a way that people could get into it without the necessity of going down the ladder, which my hon. friend from Northumberland (Mr. Mitchell) and my hon. friends from South Perth (Mr. Trow) and North Perth (Mr. Hesson), I believe, have descended on one or two occasions. All these works were necessary to put the park in a position to use at all. But those works completed, leave the question of what further works may be undertaken one entirely of convenience. My own conviction is that it would be unwise and unnecessary to make any considerable expenditure during the next year beyond that which may be necessary for the completion of the works already commenced, and I think when hon. gentlemen see the estimates for the works next year, they will find that that principle has been carried out. I cannot give the hon. gentlemen the details, although I think I will be able to do so when we come to discuss the Supplementary Estimates—and these items will be in the Supplementary Estimates—but I cannot at this moment give him the exact details which have gone to make up every item of this expenditure. Some \$10,000 expenditure has been made in connection with a topographical survey of the whole park, and for the early road building that was undertaken. The further money was obtained in order that the work might go on early in the spring, and be ready for this summer, when tourists will go to that part of the country. That was the motive for that expenditure being made, for the Governor General's warrant being obtained for that \$31,000; and, I think, as I said before, it will be found that that expenditure will nearly complete those necessary works, which, if we are to have a park at all, if we are to utilise those springs, were necessary to be undertaken in the meantime. But beyond this the question of expenditure is purely one of convenience, that Parliament may decide upon from time to time, as it thinks proper. Then the hon. gentleman says it is discovered that the Canadian Pacific Railway line, the line agreed upon as the western boundary of the territory from which their grant will be taken, extends up into this reservation. It does not extend to the hot springs; the hot springs are in no way touched by the reserve. The Devil's Head Lake, for instance, is within that portion of the territory which is east of the boundary from which the grant of the Canadian Pacific Railway is to be given. But, if the Canadian Pacific Railway were to assert their right to this property—because after all, it is a question of agreement between the Government and the Canadian Pacific Railway as to the appropriation of these lands—they cannot select and reject at will—if they were to do that we would simply find, as to that part of the park that it reduced our park to that extent, but did not in the slightest degree affect the question of expenditure, because, beyond a small portion of road extending some three miles eastward of the boundary to the Devil's Head Lake, there has been no expenditure in connection with the national park proper, on what may be regarded as an area that the Canadian Pacific Railway Company might possibly ask for, although I do not believe they will.