

hospital can be obtained at anything like a reasonable price, and again whether a much larger lot of ground might not be purchased than that at present owned by the corporation of the hospital for the price which will have to be paid for the land which it is contemplated to secure.

We observe in the evidence of some of the witnesses before the Committee to investigate into the nature of what has been termed the Tanneries land scandal, that they are reported to have said that the Tanneries property was admirably adapted for hospital purposes. There can be no two opinions on this point, and we think it a matter of regret that this property, which we understand was given to the Government of Canada for the purpose of erecting thereon a charitable institution, should in the end be diverted from the conditions of the gift of its donor and pass into the hands of a ring of land speculators. It appears to us that it was never contemplated by the donor of that parcel of land that the Quebec Government should make out of that land, by its sale, 100,000 coppers, much less that amount in dollars, and we should imagine that the heirs of the donor of that property could, in equity, re-assume the land, since the Government do not want it and, in the most disinterested manner possible, desire to get rid of it for a consideration, which of course must go into the public chest. There is a lack of straightforward honesty about the whole affair which is very discreditable to all concerned. These remarks are made merely in connection with the subject of our hospital site. We are no politician, and do not desire to enter into the question of what was right or what was wrong in the matter of the Tanneries land scandal; moreover, in the present incomplete state of the investigation, no man is qualified to give any opinion touching this transaction, with the exception that the quibbling and apparent lack of honesty on the part of some of the witnesses is very pitiful.

It is much to be regretted that the land above referred to