

hon. gentleman's own colleague, the hon. member for South Lanark (Hon. Mr. Haggart), speaking no doubt from his experience as Minister of Railways and Canals, stated that the cost of the railway from Fort William to North Bay had been \$60,000 a mile. If we get from the C. P. R. anything we require, at cost, I think we would be very fortunate. I do not propose to put it higher than cost; but I do say that the hon. gentleman will not succeed in expropriating that piece of railway from the Canadian Pacific Railway at less than its cost, as stated by the hon. member for South Lanark.

Mr. CLANCY. Does the hon. gentleman know what estimate was put upon it by the hon. member for Labelle (Mr. Bourassa) last night, which was less than was put upon it to-day, and that from the authority of an engineer?

The POSTMASTER GENERAL. I only know the estimate put upon it by the ex-Minister of Railways and Canals of the late administration, who with all the knowledge his office gave him, spoke officially in fact when he told us that the cost was \$60,000 a mile. The hon. member for Bothwell (Mr. Clancy) himself told us that he put the cost at \$45,000 a mile, in addition to which he was going to allow \$5,000 a mile for betterments.

Mr. CLANCY. I want to say to the hon. gentleman that I distinctly said that I did not put any estimate upon it. It was an estimate put upon it by a competent authority.

The POSTMASTER GENERAL. The hon. gentleman, in trying to satisfy this House what it would cost to carry out the scheme of the hon. leader of the opposition said that the estimate was that this particular railway would cost \$45,000 a mile, and that a large sum would have to be spent for betterments, which I think amounted to \$5,000 a mile. So that the hon. member for Bothwell put the railway from North Bay—

Mr. CLANCY. No, from Sudbury.

The POSTMASTER GENERAL. The hon. gentleman started from Sudbury, but the hon. leader of the opposition started from North Bay. You see, our hon. friends opposite are not in harmony, and I am defending the hon. leader of the opposition. That hon. gentleman is buying the whole railway from North Bay to Fort William, and the hon. member for Bothwell puts the price at \$50,000 a mile, and it is a question whether we will take his figure or the figure of the hon. member for South Lanark, viz., \$60,000. I think it probable that the hon. ex-Minister of Railways and Canals has a more accurate knowledge of the facts.

**At His Figure, Then, the 634 Miles From North Bay to Fort William Will Cost us \$38,040,000.**

#### **Canadian Northern Comes Into Play.**

We have now reached Fort William. There we meet two railways, the Canadian Pacific and the Canadian Northern Railway. The hon. gentleman proposes to acquire some estate over the Canadian Pacific Railway. His scheme is to get a

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available for the Intercolonial Railway and all other railways. **He has already told us that running powers are a delusion, that they cannot be acquired so**