

It is not true that the Government is paying a 7½-per-cent. bonus or "forced account," as Mr. Bowser alleges. The method of procedure in letting this contract was like this: (a) Tenders were called for on a unit basis; (b) Government engineers estimated what the work should cost; (c) if the work costs more than the Government estimate, the contractors get just the estimated cost plus 5½ per cent. for doing the work; (d) if the work is done for less than the estimated cost, the contracting firm gets 25 per cent. of the difference between the actual cost and estimated cost. These facts are of common knowledge and Mr. Bowser cannot be ignorant of the terms of this contract. There is a reasonable inducement held out to the contractors to do the work at less than the estimated cost where possible, as they lose no money by doing so. What explanation can the supporters of the Leader of the Opposition offer for such flagrant misrepresentation of the contract?

As to the Pacific Great Eastern settlement as arranged between Foley, Welch & Stewart and the Government, the terms of that settlement require the handing over of the railway and \$1,000,000 in cash. All the townsite lands and all the actual railway equipment became the property of the Government. The terms and conditions of this settlement were brought down to the House in the form of a Bill, and this Bill passed the House unanimously. Mr. Bowser not only did not obstruct the Bill, but he, with all his supporters in the House, voted for it. All the Independents and all the Soldier members supported it.

Now Mr. Bowser says a better settlement could have been effected. Why, then, did not he, or some of his supporters, suggest a better method or terms of settlement when the Bill was before the House? There is only one answer to the question; that is that Mr. Bowser and every member of the House knew it was the best settlement that could be effected. Any man who exhibits so little regard for truth and honour as is exhibited by Mr. Bowser in his attitude toward this matter should be driven from public life.

#### GREENWOOD SMELTER.

Mr. Bowser questioned whether the present Government had put forth much effort to keep the Greenwood smelter in operation. He reverted to the situation in Phoenix some years ago when the Granby was threatened with closing down, and stressed the statement that the Conservative Government then in power had made the necessary arrangements by which mining was continued. He admitted that owing to increases in the price of copper the Granby was able to operate at a profit, and the Government was not called upon to pay over any money on the guarantees it had given.

With reference to the assistance given the Granby smelter at that time, let us look at the situation and see what this boasted assistance amounted to. In the first place, the Granby smelter did not suffer from shortage of ore at that time. But about 1913, immediately prior to the threatened cessation of operations, representations were made to the Government of Sir Richard McBride that owing to the exceptionally low