

occur to me to-morrow. When the federal district commission undertakes its work I hope that this is one of the first things that will be done, because I think it will be a great attraction and a great convenience to tourists who visit the grounds. I hope that the Minister of Public Works will give attention to it. It may not come under the federal district commission at all. I thought that perhaps we could finish this debate to-night.

Mr. JOHN BRACKEN (Leader of the Opposition): On the resolution stage of this proposal I asked certain questions of the Acting Prime Minister (Mr. St. Laurent) who introduced it. I was not here earlier this evening, but I understand that he did not speak on this stage of the bill.

Mr. ST. LAURENT: He has had no opportunity yet.

Mr. BRACKEN: So far as I am concerned, he will have an opportunity in five minutes, if he chooses to take it.

The questions I asked at that time were these as reported at page 4385 of *Hansard*, I said:

I am rising now to ask the minister if, when we go into committee to deal with the bill itself, he will give us a brief statement as to what has been done by the state in connection with this project, when it was started, roughly what has been done, the expenditures from year to year from the beginning, in tabulated form, and what the national war memorial aspects of this proposal are likely to mean in the way of increased cost to the state.

If we had some of that information we might have proceeded with more confidence at this stage. But I am sure the minister will give us that information later, if not to-night.

In the debate so far, we have heard comments regarding the recommendations of a joint committee which was set up a couple of years ago to consider the relations between the Canadian government and the municipality of Ottawa or the community of Ottawa. That commission made four recommendations. I shall refer to two of them. One was that the number of members on the commission should be increased, and another was that the appropriation should be increased to \$300,000 a year—I think it was \$200,000 before. The bill before us proposes what? The recommendation of the commission was to increase the grant to \$300,000 for five years. The proposed bill suggests an appropriation of \$300,000 a year for not less than fifteen years. In addition, it proposes to make available a lump sum of \$3,000,000. It also proposes to call the project a national war memorial. As I see it, these are the main features of the bill

before us. The committee which was appointed made no recommendation with respect to expenditures for fifteen years, made no recommendation with respect to a lump sum of \$3 million, made no recommendation with respect to making this federal district project a national war memorial. Those features have been added by the government to the commission's report. I suggest that the government might have stirred itself to see that we had something more in the way of a detailed report from the French expert who has been retained to study this question and make recommendations. In the absence of that, rumour has it that, before we are through with it, this project will cost the state scores of millions of dollars. It is not expected that at this time anyone can see into the distant future, but if we had something more of the commission's ideas, to indicate what they have in mind, I am quite sure the house could act more intelligently.

With respect to beautifying the nation's capital, I have not heard anybody in this house disagree. Certainly I do not. Whatever the future may hold for me, I will stand with all those who desire to see that done and who will make the necessary sacrifices to see that Canada's capital is the most beautiful in the world, not because I want to make it the only war memorial in Canada, but because we should do this by reason of the fact that it is the nation's capital, and without any other excuse. I do not believe in making a national war memorial an excuse for spending a great deal of money in Ottawa. We do not need that excuse; and in addition, I do not believe all the money for a national war memorial should be spent in any one place. The provinces of Canada and all the people of Canada helped to win the war.

When this bill passes second reading, as it will, and is considered in committee I propose to advance two amendments. The membership of the commission is being increased, and the government is generously saying to the prairie provinces that they may have one member, and to the maritimes that they may have one also. At the same time they are saying to the city of Hull that they may have one, and to the city of Ottawa that they may have one. In any national war memorial proposal, if that is what this is to be, I think every province in Canada should be represented, and I give notice to that effect.

Then, if these large sums are to be used for the purposes of a national war memorial I am going to move that a certain portion of those moneys be made available for the same purpose in each province of Canada,