

Mr. HANSON: Two hundred and thirty acres was the only thing that the city gave for the construction?

The CHAIRMAN: Well, the False Creek property was one that was undeveloped; it was a space that belonged to the city and had to be covered by bridges. It was one of the best entrances that could be given to any railroad corporation. There is no doubt about that. I was in Vancouver long before any member here was born—when I say “any member” I mean any member from Vancouver. I do not mean some of the other gentlemen here who are ten or a dozen years older than I am. I can almost say to any member from Vancouver that I was in the city before it was named Vancouver and before False Creek was known as a creek at all, before there was any building in the city. I was there in 1885 and you can figure it out for yourself; and I have been there almost every year or two since. That is one reason why I took a little exception to what Mr. Hanbury said about the position of this new hotel, that it was a better position than where the C.P.R. hotel is. I do not believe him, and I can tell him, more, that the values of land on Granville street, on which the C.P.R. hotel is, are very much more than they are where this other hotel is.

Mr. HANBURY: You are speaking, about the cost of land.

The CHAIRMAN: That is what I say.

Mr. HANBURY: I say it is a better site for the purpose.

The CHAIRMAN: Oh, well,—that is a different statement.

HON. DR. MANION: To complete the picture, may I just read the order in council. I sent for it so there would be no misunderstanding, and we will have it on record. This order in council was passed on the 28th September, 1926. It was passed by the other government after we went out. It is a briefer one than the other one, which consists of four pages. This one is dated the 28th of September, 1926, and I shall read it:—

The Committee of the Privy Council have had before them a report, dated 28th September, 1926, from the Minister of Railways and Canals, representing that by order in council of the 7th August, 1926 (P.C. 1218) approval has been given to a recommendation of the Board of Directors of the Canadian National Railway Company to construct, at an approximate cost of \$3,500,000 a hotel in the city of Vancouver in consideration of the city of Vancouver releasing the Canadian Northern Pacific Railway company and the Canadian Northern Railway Company of any and all obligations and liabilities under the provisions of Clauses 12, 13, 14 and 17 of a certain agreement, dated the 5th of February, 1913, entered into between the city of Vancouver, the Canadian Northern Pacific Railway Company and the Canadian Northern Railway Company. The said order in council further purports to authorize the said Railway companies to enter into an agreement or agreements with the city of Vancouver to give full effect to the understanding arrived at.

The Minister further represents that it is expedient that the matter, as approved by the said Order in Council of the 7th of August, 1926 (P.C. 1218) be given reconsideration.

The Minister therefore recommends that the said Order in Council of the 7th of August, 1926 (P.C. 1218) be cancelled.

The committee concur in the foregoing recommendation and submit the same for approval.

I should not have read that one, because that is the one that was not carried out.

Oh well, gentlemen, don't think you have any laugh on me at all, because you have not. I have the Order in Council here which authorized the \$3,500,000 hotel, so the laugh is the other way.