

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: There were two items mentioned, as my honourable friend will find in the judgment of Mr. Justice Cassels, reading as follows:

It is agreed by counsel for the railways and for the Crown that the consideration of \$4,349,000 and \$2,500,000 is the maximum price to be paid for the three railways.

Now, the valuation placed by Mr. Justice Cassels upon the Quebec and Saguenay road is \$2,886,939.06. To that is added interest, amounting to \$228,519, not included in the award, and which was not referred to him because it was not included in the reference, which was that he should determine the actual cost of the road entirely irrespective of interest. Hence the award was fixed at the amount which I have mentioned, and the Government—with the concurrence, as I understand, of Mr. Justice Cassels—has added interest, on the basis of 6 per cent, allowable during the period of construction upon the items expended in construction, which brings the amount up to \$3,115,458.69. To that amount is added interest from July 1, 1916, to July 30, 1918, being the date when it is anticipated that the Government will take over the road; in all amounting to \$3,489,313.53. Now, this is the maximum amount permitted, by the estimate which we have before us, as the consideration to be paid by the Government of Canada should it purchase the road. It may purchase it at a less amount, but this authority, which represents the exact amount determined by the Exchequer Court plus the interest, is for the amount which we ask Parliament to sanction.

I am unaware of honourable gentlemen who sat on the other side of the Senate having raised their voices in protest at the time authority was given to Parliament to purchase the road at approximately four and a half millions. There was a weak protest made by one or two honourable gentlemen, but I noticed particularly that the Opposition at that time did not join unanimously in opposing the purchase of the road. In fact, they showed as much interest as this side of the House, and as did both branches of Parliament, that the Government should acquire the Quebec and Saguenay road. Hence I think that explanation is satisfactory, and will appeal to honourable gentlemen on either side of the House. If my honourable friend had consulted with his colleagues sitting to the left of the Speaker in the other branch of Parliament, he would have found that they differed en-

tirely from the view which he has taken upon this subject.

Then, as to the item of \$900,000 to which my honourable friend objects, that has been expended on account of construction. This road is an uncompleted road; it had to be completed, and this amount will be required to be expended for the completion of the road. Hence it is with every sense of confidence that we ask Parliament to give to the Government this authority for the purchase of the road. I therefore move the second reading of the Bill.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill was read the second time.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED moved the third reading of the Bill.

The motion was agreed to, and the Bill was read the third time and passed.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

After some time the sitting was resumed.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.

His Excellency the Governor General, having come and being seated on the Throne;

His Honour the Speaker commanded the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod to proceed to the House of Commons and acquaint that House that: "It is His Excellency the Governor General's pleasure they attend him immediately in the Senate,"

Who being come with their Speaker:

The Clerk of the Crown in Chancery read the Titles of the Bills to be passed, as follows:

An Act to confirm an agreement between His Majesty the King and the Van Buren Bridge Company.

An Act to amend the Department of Railways and Canals Act.

An Act respecting the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment.

An Act respecting The Canadian Society of Civil Engineers and to change its name to "The Engineering Institute of Canada."

An Act respecting a patent of O. G. C. L. J. Overbeck.

An Act respecting the Cosmos Cotton Company.

An Act to amend the Animal Contagious Diseases Act.

An Act to amend the Yukon Act.

An Act to amend The Industrial Disputes Investigation Act, 1907.

An Act respecting the Naval Discipline (Dominion Naval Forces) Act, 1911.

An Act to provide Compensation where Employees of His Majesty are killed or suffer injuries while performing their duties.

An Act to amend the Railway Belt Act.