

ment upon the right of the subject, but in dealing with railways, telegraph lines and enterprises of that kind there is perhaps justification; but in so far as a private undertaking is concerned, purely an industrial company, there is no reason whatever why any such power should be given. It may be said that this is a very large company. It is true it appears to be a large company, but the principle is exactly the same as if it were a small company, and if the principle is to be adopted by the parliament of Canada that such power is to be given to large companies, then it must also be given to small companies.

What would be the effect if all the industrial companies throughout the land possessed the power of expropriation? I was one of those who firmly believed that the rights of the subject would always be guarded in the Senate of Canada, and I am one of those who would be very sorry indeed if the principle ever prevails here that this injustice—for I consider it unjust legislation—should prevail. I have been many years in parliament, and I have attended, perhaps, as many committees dealing with private Bills as any other member. I have heard several discussions upon this subject, but the first occasion, in my presence, on which a company of this kind has received powers of expropriation was a few days ago in the committee when this Bill was assented to. I may not be able to accomplish anything, but there is one thing I always will do, and that is to adhere to the principles which I believe to be right, the principles which I believe to be best in the interests of the people of the country, and I shall never consent to a private corporation—because this is a private corporation—obtaining the right of expropriation for private purposes. For these reasons I move that clause 17 of the Bill be stricken out.

Hon. Mr. POWER—One cannot help having a great deal of respect for the opinion of the hon. gentleman who has just sat down; but I think he is somewhat mistaken. One would imagine that the rights of private individuals were going to be subjected to a very great danger, and that there was great risk of serious injustice being done if the right of expropriation was granted to this company. Now the right of expropria-

tion which is granted by this Bill is the same right which the united wisdom of parliament has caused to be inserted in the Railway Act. The rights of the owners of lands are very carefully protected; and, as a matter of fact, instead of having their property taken from them without sufficient remuneration, as a rule the owners get a great deal more than the lands are worth. I think that is a fact about which there can be no question. Still, if the hon. gentleman's statement that this right of expropriation had never been given to a company of this kind until this case came up were correct, there would be a great deal of force in his contention, and I for one should be somewhat disposed to support him; but the hon. gentleman is quite in error. With the permission of the House I wish to call attention to a few enactments contained in the statutes of 1903 and 1904. The first Act to which I direct attention is chapter 96, of the Acts of 1903. That is an Act respecting the Canadian Northwest Irrigation Company. Section 6 of that Act gives powers of expropriation, and makes the provisions of the Railway Act applicable to the works of that company, just as they are made applicable to the works of this company.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (B.C.)—Is that a private Bill?

Hon. Mr. POWER—Yes. I shall not cite any but private Acts. Chapter 109 of the same year is an Act to incorporate the Columbia River Improvement Company, Limited, an Act very much on the same lines as the Bill before us. Section 17 of that Act gives the same powers of expropriation which are given by section 17 of this Bill. Chapter 119 of the Acts of the same year is intitled 'An Act to incorporate the Erie, Ontario Power Company', and section 17 of that Act gives powers the same as those which are given by section 17 of the Bill before us.

Hon. Mr. SULLIVAN—One wrong does not justify another.

Hon. Mr. POWER—Chapter 170 is the next one to which I call attention, 'An Act to incorporate the Ottawa and Quebec Power Company'. Section 7 of that Act, subsections 2 and 3 give powers of expro-