

Rimouski highway. Montreal-Rouse's Point highway. Levis-Sherbrooke highway.

Mr. SEXSMITH: How much money has been paid up to date on the Toronto-Kingston highway, and what progress has been made?

Hon. Mr. REID: I have not the details of each road; I have only the total amount for each province. If the hon. member wants to have the details in regard to each road I shall have to get them.

Mr. SEXSMITH: I think what I have asked for is a very important detail in connection with this highway from Toronto to Kingston.

Hon. Mr. REID: No doubt about it.

Mr. SEXSMITH: I think we should have some information in regard to the matter; they have been spending money on this highway for the last eight months, perhaps more. If the minister cannot give us the actual amount of money, can he state what it is estimated this road will cost per mile?

Hon. Mr. REID: I have not any information of that kind before me now. If hon. members would mention what information they require I will get it for them. I have not this particular agreement here. There are a great many agreements and in each of them it is stated what the road provided for is estimated to cost, but if the cost be more than the estimated amount we only pay our forty per cent. There is a clause in the agreement with each province which provides that notwithstanding the fact that the road may cost more than the total amount the province is to receive as its quota, the grant shall not exceed what the province is entitled to receive under the Act.

Mr. SEXSMITH: That is a very indefinite statement. We are going to expend \$20,000,000 toward the construction of highways in the provinces, of which amount it is proposed to expend \$7,000,000 in the province of Ontario. I think at least we should have some idea whether that money is going to be spent on one particular road, or in one particular part of the province. The minister has his engineer sitting in front of him, and if we have entered into any agreement with the province of Ontario in connection with this particular road I think we should be told something about it. The Toronto and Kingston road, as we all know, runs along

the lake front, and through the same district there are three railways running—one double track railway, and two government owned railways, and in addition a hydro-electric railway is proposed. Now, I understand, the proposition is to expend perhaps a million or two million dollars on this highway while not a dollar has been spent in the district forty or fifty miles north of it. I would not want to say that the minister or the department was deliberately setting out on a policy of building speedways such as we heard so much a year or two ago in the last provincial election. During that election in the province of Ontario great opposition was made to this road plan by the party now in power in the province on the ground that it contemplated building speedways for the inhabitants of the cities to run automobiles and go picnicking over. I do not know as to the truth of the report, but I am now beginning to entertain the suspicion that that is exactly what the department here, in conjunction with the Provincial Government, is deliberately setting out to do. I am not saying that the proposition is absolutely wrong, but I do maintain that it is not to the best interests of the country. Of course hon. gentlemen around me may be quite satisfied that this cement highway should go along the lake shore where there are already two government railways and a privately owned double track railway. Later Sir Adam Beck will come along with his Hydro Electric railway, because I understand that is on the programme, and place it side by side with the others. At the same time there are other parts of the province of Ontario which need consideration just as much as the district through which this Toronto and Kingston highway will run. If we are going to open up highways throughout the province of Ontario, or throughout Canada, for the benefit of the people, supply we are not going to spend all the money on one highway or one chain of highways. I would again ask the minister if he cannot give us some information as to the arrangement which has been entered into with respect to this road? I would ask what the road is going to cost and of what material it will be built?

Hon. Mr. REID: The hon. member is absolutely right in his statement, and he is entitled to get all the information he wishes with respect to any road. As I stated a few minutes ago, I have not the