

Hon. Mr. WOOD—Is anything allowed for the cost of management?

Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT—That I think the state, looking at the advantages to the community, might take on its shoulders; but I will allude to that afterwards.

Hon. Mr. FERGUSON—The government could afford to throw in the cost of management.

THE COST OF MANAGEMENT.

Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT—The cost of management would be very insignificant, for this reason: The state at this present moment has a very large savings bank account. It deals with two hundred thousand separate depositors in its savings banks alone, and the actual cost of management is very small. Now, it would be a trifling addition to the cost of management to add whatever number of parties chose to avail themselves of this project to the present savings banks depositors, and, as I said, I think the advantages to the state are so great that the state might well allot a very moderate sum of money to the purpose of facilitating the introduction of this scheme. There would, no doubt, for the first three years while introducing it, be need of some grant in aid. That I mentioned in my former remarks on the subject.

I may state with respect to old-age pensions, I have here the very latest Bill introduced in the English House of Commons, on the 15th February of this year. That is a subject which has been debated for from twenty-five to thirty years in England. It has been dealt with by a great many parliamentary committees, among which was one of which His Majesty himself was a member. I do not say what may be evolved here-