

being held; it may be New York, the seat of the UNO and UNRRA. We do not know what capital we have. Ottawa is not definitely our capital, and it will not be if we abandon any part of our sovereignty to the big powers. If that is done, then the capital that we shall have to improve and beautify will be Chungking, China; London, England; Washington, D.C.; Paris, France, and Moscow, Russia. If the big five are to control our destinies Ottawa will not exist any longer as the capital city. Since this bill proposes the beautification of the capital city of Canada, there is still a little bit of hope for the future.

Mr. D. G. ROSS (St. Paul's): Mr. Speaker, I certainly enjoyed the few words that were said by the Minister of Veterans Affairs (Mr. Mackenzie). He is one of our real highland Scotsmen and we all know how sentimental they are. I agree with him that Canada has really a wonderful history, but it is a pity that many of our people do not understand our background. It is a pity that people in one part of the country do not understand the people in other parts.

There is no doubt that Ottawa is a beautiful city. Whoever was responsible for putting this House of Commons in the place it is deserves a great deal of credit. The House of Commons, the east block, the west block and many of our buildings are really beautiful. I would rather bring about a better understanding of our history by the people of Canada than spend a lot of money in beautifying the capital. Toronto is a beautiful city, but the citizens of Toronto made it beautiful, not the Ontario government. We are proud that Toronto is the capital of the province of Ontario, but the provincial government have not spent a lot of money in making Toronto beautiful.

What we need is a unified history of Canada that would be acceptable to everyone. We talk about a war memorial, but if we could publish such a history and have it understood by all the people it would be the greatest war memorial we could possibly have. It do not think this is the time to talk about spending a lot of money. It is all very well to get prepared for these things. Mr. Bronson, whom I know, has done a wonderful job with the federal district commission and we are all indebted to him, but he is still a young man and will have lots of opportunities in the future.

Being the legislative centre of Canada means that Ottawa has many advantages. That brings many people to the city and they spend their money. I do not think we should be asked to do too much for the city

of Ottawa. I believe in the federal district commission and I believe we want to have a beautiful capital some of these days. As far as a war memorial is concerned, we should not forget that the war is just over and there are many things that have to be done. We should think this thing over for a while to see whether we want to carry this out as a war memorial or whether we would rather do something else. Ottawa is only a small city in comparison with other cities in the country. As I say, I think we want a good capital; we want to have a lovely place.

What we have to do is to cut our coats according to our cloth. We have a war to pay for. It is all very well to say that it is only going to cost us \$223,000 more this year, but \$223,000 is a lot of money. This is not the time to be increasing expenditures at the expense of the taxpayers of this country. That is a fact that has to be taken into consideration. I find that under this bill the federal district commission will have the right to borrow \$3,000,000 or to obtain \$3,000,000 from the consolidated revenue fund. I think that should be thought over. Let us get settled down after this war and think about expenditures of one kind and another, and the taxpayer. The government has been so used to thinking of hundreds of millions of dollars that it does not think about hundreds of thousands of dollars any more. If the commission borrows money the government will guarantee the bonds and pay the interest. It may be a good project, I do not know. I think this matter should be carefully considered before we go on spending the taxpayers' money.

There is just one other factor about this matter. An architect has been brought here from Paris, France. He may be the finest town planner in the world, but the fact is that Canada has many fine architects and town planners. Many of these men have studied overseas in Paris and other places on the continent. A great Canadian architect, Mr. Pearson, built this building, and it is a great tribute to his ability. Why should we go outside the country, why should we import someone from some other country who is not acquainted with Canadian culture? We should try to develop our Canadian art. We have our French-Canadian songs and our French-Canadian music and we are trying to get English-Canadian music and songs through Sir Ernest MacMillan. We have our own artists whose works are being shown all over the world at the present time. We have our schools of architecture; our universities are training men to be architects, and we have