

Now, the hon. gentleman (Mr. Borden, Halifax) has got one railway to the coast and you would think that that scheme ought to have satisfied the ambition of any ordinary man. But not so on this occasion. **The hon. gentleman told us**, and he told us particularly, that the country was not afraid of spending money, and the hon. gentleman is not afraid of spending money. I take him at his word, I have not the slightest doubt of the accuracy of that statement, because, having got to the coast, he turns back again to the east with an eye on Moncton and Halifax—and I do not blame him for that. He considers how he is to square himself with the people of the east on the unfortunate position in which he placed himself on the 30th of July last. So he approaches the question a little gingerly but still his meaning is not difficult to discover. On the 18th of August, addressing himself to the subject of a government line, he says :

"I say that if there is a better line between Lévis, or Rivière du Loup, or any such port on the Intercolonial, and Moncton, a line the construction of which will give to Halifax and St. John a better fighting chance for western traffic than that which they have at present, I will support the construction of that line. But I will not support it with the object for which this Bill provides. I will tell my hon. friend how I will support it. I will support the construction of that line as part of the Intercolonial Railway."

Therefore, he says, if a better route can be obtained

#### **He is Prepared to Extend the Intercolonial from Moncton to Lévis.**

It is not a question of cost, it is not a question of paralleling the Intercolonial. He is prepared to build a railway from Moncton to Lévis; he is prepared to take the through traffic, or all traffic if needs be, off the main line of the Intercolonial which now follows the south shore of the St. Lawrence; he is prepared to incur all the expense if a better road can be obtained. **It is not a question of cost**, he commits himself up to the handle because everyone knows that a better road than the existing line of the Intercolonial can be obtained if you do not object to the cost. Engineers can get you what you are prepared to pay for. It is a question of a better line and money does not concern him because as he said :

"The people of the country are not afraid of spending money, if it is spent in a sane and reasonable way . . . . ."

"There is no reason to be afraid of spending money, I am not afraid of spending money. And the country is not afraid of spending money. But let us spend it in a reasonable and proper way."

Everyone will concur in

#### **The Hon. Gentleman's Statement That He is not Afraid of Spending Money**

After the words I have quoted from his speech. He is prepared, if a better line can be got, to build from Moncton to Lévis and I am sure the hon. gentleman could not go back to Halifax to-day and say that he was not honestly in favour of the construction of a line between Moncton and Lévis—not only in favour of constructing such a line, but of constructing it at the earliest possible moment, and I expect that before this debate is concluded the hon. gentleman will come all the way over and say that he heartily approves of the immediate construction of a line from Lévis to Moncton.