

prise; and for that purpose I beg to move, seconded by my hon. friend from St. John (Mr. Pugsley):

"That the said Bill be not now read a third time, but that it be resolved that under existing circumstances no assistance should be given to the Canadian Northern Railway Company unless at the same time it is provided that the Government have power, within a reasonable time, to acquire the ownership of the entire stock of the company at a price to be fixed by arbitration, but not to exceed thirty million dollars."

"My hon. friend from St. John (Mr. Pugsley) emphasized the exceedingly fair nature of the proposal made by his leader. He said it was fair to the proprietors of the Canadian Northern; it was fair to the people of this country; it was fair to the Government; it was fair to Parliament; it was fair to everybody. Here is his language as found on page 4641:

My right hon. friend (Sir Wilfrid Laurier) moves as an amendment that as a condition of granting this aid the Government shall be allowed to take control of this stock and control of the enterprise until it is completed, and that the country shall have leave to take over the entire stock of the Canadian Northern railway within a reasonable time at a price to be fixed by arbitration but not to exceed the sum of \$30,000,000. Is not that a reasonable proposition? Is not that a proposition which is fair to the people of this country who are called upon to assume this enormous liability? Is it not fair to Mackenzie, Mann and Company who are asking this country, for the fourth time, to help to complete this enterprise? It is fair to Mackenzie, Mann and Company, and it is a fair and reasonable proposition on behalf of the people of this country.

"Yet my hon. friend to-day is horrified at the idea of giving any hearing to the proprietors of the Canadian Northern stock or any hearing to the company in which is vested the equity of redemption subject to the mortgages which have been placed upon the property for the purpose of constructing the railway. I do not think that my hon. friends, in view of the attitude which they took in 1914, can expect that the country will give a great deal of weight to their affected horror at the very reasonable proposals of the Government."

With the inconsistency and insincerity of the Opposition thus exposed, and the strength of the Government's proposals thus