

its value a portion of that park, defeating the purposes for which that park was originally intended, and for which it has been maintained for a great many years at a great cost to the country, and allowing an hotel to be erected there, with a bar for the purpose of the sale of intoxicating liquors right amongst the government buildings, as they will exist on Mackenzie avenue and Sussex street. Does not that seem to the Minister of Public Works somewhat of a shocking proposition? Would it not be more economical, if that park has to be taken away from the use of the public, that the government should use it for the erection of its own buildings, and thereby get them much nearer to the main parliament buildings on parliament hill? I am astonished that the government should be so lost to all sense of decency so far as the recognition of public rights is concerned, that it should consent to a proposition at once so monstrous and so wanting in economic features. Now I have made some inquiries, and I understand that \$100,000 for that site is a very small percentage of the value of the land for the purposes for which it was intended.

Mr. PUGSLEY. Has the person who informed the hon. gentleman the slightest idea of the value of the real estate in that vicinity or does he know the frontage on Rideau street?

Mr. BOYCE. Yes, I think he does.

Mr. PUGSLEY. Does he not think \$800 per foot frontage is a good price?

Mr. BOYCE. It might be for lands across the street but having regard to the purpose for which the land is to be generously given by this government it is not. The planting of a hotel right in the middle of the parliament buildings on land from the public domain of Canada is not I think a proposition that will appeal to the people of Canada who have such an interest in the maintenance of that park.

Mr. PUGSLEY. We do not propose planting it in the middle of the parliament buildings.

Mr. BOYCE. I am looking forward to the time when the new buildings shall have been erected, this hotel shall have been completed and the park which has been for the benefit of the people of Canada will be the back garden of the hotel for its benefit and improvement.

On section 2,

2. The proceeds of the sale of the said parcel of land shall be placed to the credit of the Ottawa Improvement Commission, to be applied by them for the purposes of the commission, under the instructions and directions of the Governor in Council.

Mr. FOSTER. Does the minister mean that the money which is paid by the Grand

Mr. BOYCE.

Trunk shall not be paid into the Receiver General and become a part of the consolidated revenue fund?

Mr. PUGSLEY. Yes, it is intended that this should be placed specially to the credit of the Ottawa Improvement Commission to be drawn from time to time and expended under the direction of the Governor General.

Mr. FOSTER. But all moneys that may come in for any purpose whatever must go to the consolidated revenue. It must first be paid into the fund and then you can vote it from the fund or appropriate from it. But in what way will you keep accounts if you are to sell off portions of the public lands of the country and instead of placing the proceeds in the consolidated revenue, pass the money over to the credit of some appropriations?

Mr. PUGSLEY. This section was brought to the notice of the Minister of Finance. It was drawn by the Minister of Justice. I do not myself see any reason why if it is intended to keep this as a special fund for the purposes of the work of the Ottawa Improvement Commission it should not be placed by the Minister of Finance to the credit of that commission.

Mr. FOSTER. I suppose the government could do anything it chose if parliament authorized it, but is that the proper way?

Mr. PUGSLEY. I do not see any objection.

Mr. FOSTER. I do not suppose the hon. gentleman sees objection to anything.

Mr. PUGSLEY. It is to be a special fund to be applied for a special purpose under the direction of the Ottawa Improvement Commission and with the approval of the Governor in Council. It is intended, as the Prime Minister informed the House, that the whole of this money shall be devoted by the Ottawa Improvement Commission to the improvement and extension of the Major's Hill park so as to carry the improvements right down to Nepean point.

Mr. FOSTER. I think my hon. friend had better not increase that system in this country. That seemed to be a principle introduced into provincial finance in New Brunswick but I do not think we should do it here, that you can take money out of the country's resources in any way other than by cheque from the consolidated fund. Surely you are not going to commence that game now with the funds of this country.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. What possibility would there be of this government obtaining any record? If it is turned over to the commission the government have no record or means of enforcing the payment of it in any sense.