

Mr. HENDERSON: The province leaves it to the county councils—not absolutely, I admit, for the provincial government keeps a control over it. Under this proposed legislation the money to be granted will be spent under an agreement made between the Dominion and provincial governments, and in this manner a control will be kept as to its expenditure. Two heads are better than one, and I think the fact that two governments have something to say in the matter will be conducive to better results. Hon. gentlemen have said that there is a danger, if the Dominion is to have anything to say in the matter, that the money may be used for political purposes. Would there not be a greater danger if the money were handed over to the provincial government? I think the province of Ontario would, perhaps, be all right in that regard, but as long as I am in Parliament I would like to have a voice in the expenditure of that money in order to show my lack of appreciation of any such use being made of the appropriation. I am not afraid that the money, under this joint control, is going to be misapplied, and I think this double-barrelled regulation will make us feel assured that the money will be devoted to very laudable purpose of construction and improving highways which the hon. Minister of Railways and Canals has in view in the Bill which he has brought down.

I am in hearty sympathy with the Government in this grant and I hope that nothing will prevent this Bill going through both Houses. I fail to see why the Senate should not trust the Government of the day in the expenditure of this money along the lines indicated. The provinces are to have a say in it, the Dominion is to have some say in it and I think we might say that the Senate is to have some say in it; but let us by all means make sure that whatever is done with this money it shall be, as the hon. member for South Wellington said, ear-marked for the purpose of road improvement and let us make sure that our legislation is so framed that the money cannot possibly be diverted into any other channel. I feel that all the safeguards required for the purpose of protecting this money are thrown around it in this Bill. I heartily endorse the Bill and will vote against the amendment of the hon. member for North Oxford (Mr. Nesbitt).

Mr. EDWARDS: I would call the attention of hon. gentlemen opposite to the fact that the principle of the Dominion Government contributing to the upkeep of the roads was adopted some years ago by the Government of the right hon. gentleman who now leads the Opposition. In the county which I have the honour to represent they assume and maintain a piece of road. That particular piece of road is

on the direct line of travel between Toronto and Montreal and is travelled by all automobiles passing from one city to the other. This was taken over by the late Government and maintained by them so that they adopted the principle and I have not heard of anyone on the opposite side of the House being greatly shocked by their doing so.

Mr. HUGHES (Kings, P.E.I.): Will the money allotted or extended under this Bill be apportioned to the provinces according to their population and will the money so allotted be extended in each province from year to year or will the amount assigned to each province be held over for one, two or three years and then the whole amount be expended in that province in any one year?

Mr. COCHRANE: The money will be voted according to population as my hon. friend will see when the estimates come down. As to the expenditure of the money, it will certainly be spent each year as it is voted.

Mr. HUGHES: In each province?

Mr. COCHRANE: Unless some province—and I do not think this is possible—will refuse to entertain it and enter into an agreement.

Mr. OLIVER. I asked the minister some time ago on what grounds he concluded that the governments of the various provinces were less able to look after road and bridge expenditure within the different provinces than he or this Government would be.

Mr. COCHRANE: I said that this Parliament should be responsible for any money voted by it and that the minister of a department should be responsible for the money to be expended under that department.

Mr. OLIVER: I am struck with the protestations of our friends to-night, and their insistence on the principle that Parliament shall control any money that is to be expended in the name of or by this Government. The Minister of Agriculture had a Bill up a night or two ago providing for the expenditure of \$10,000,000 and it was an essential principle of that Bill that Parliament should not have any control over the expenditure of that money.

Mr. COCHRANE: Oh, no, Parliament has control under that Bill.

Mr. OLIVER: Absolutely no control over the expenditure of the money.

Mr. COCHRANE: They have.

Mr. BURRELL: The principle of control in the Agricultural Bill is the same as in this Bill, that is it is embodied in the share