

given without tenders being called for. Well, if that is so, a part of this money that we are voting is spent in that way. It may be spent well, but we ought to know that it is spent well, and we ought to have an auditor to overhaul that. I am not sure that we should go beyond our function if we were to insist that contracts for any considerable amount should be invariably based upon tenders. I hope the Government will go into this question, I hope the Government will listen to the prayer of this memorial, I hope the Government will give an adequate sum, I hope the Government will alter the character of the executive and make it of a responsible character, to the extent that they demand. But in doing that let the Government make a constitution that will be consistent. If you make a constitution short of perfect provincial autonomy, such as these gentlemen desire, and still keep them in 'statu tutelari,' then you are bound as long as they are spending money that we vote here, to have an officer who will give us an account of how that money is spent.

Mr. OLIVER. I am sure the people of the North-west Territories will be very glad to know that the hon. gentleman (Mr. Davin) who has just sat down, is advocating their interests so strongly, and I have no doubt they will accord him almost that measure of appreciation that he received at the late election, in the coming election that is likely to take place in his constituency. I do not wish to argue all the different points he has raised: I will only say that on the general question the hon. gentleman and myself are at one, namely, that the Territories are entitled to a greater measure of consideration at the hands of this Government. I can only hope that the hon. member will be able, by his arguments, so to influence those who sit on the same side of the House as himself, that, what they were able to do when they had the power and did not do, that is, grant the fuller measure of justice to the Territories that the people of those Territories desire and expect, they will support the new Government in doing when the opportunity arises. This question was brought before the House on a previous occasion. It is before the Government again. Gentlemen representing the Government of the North-west Territories are here now. It is quite within the knowledge of the hon. gentleman (Mr. Davin) that members of that Government are here for the purpose of claiming additional subsidy and additional powers. I should like to point out to the House that while the hon. gentleman made a lengthy appeal on behalf of the memorial which those hon. gentlemen are advocating, he also made an insinuation against the gentlemen themselves, and thereby attempted to weaken their case with the Government of the day, for he insinuated that the Government of which they are the head was not spend-

ing the money in its hands in a manner that was for the best interest of the country and the people, and that they had to be watched; in fact, it was absolutely necessary they should be watched by a special auditor appointed by this Government. I say that while the hon. gentleman was, on the one hand, declaring that their wishes should be granted, on the other hand he was trying to make light of the position of those gentlemen and to weaken confidence in them so that their representations would not be agreed to. In this case, as in others, the hon. gentleman has been blowing hot and cold; one reason that we have not been able to get what we desired in the past.

I submit that the position of the North-west Territories at the present time, in so far as the control of the funds voted to them by Parliament is concerned, should be, if it is not, exactly the same as that of a province. Certain money is voted to responsible representatives of the people of the Territories for expenditure, under the control of responsible advisers, and there is no reason why that Government should not have full control of the funds, as has the legislature of a province. When the hon. gentleman says that the North-west Government do not ask for full provincial powers, and advances reasons why they should not be given control of money, which only they can properly control, he shows a desire to weaken and not strengthen their case. They are the only people who can know to what purposes this money should be applied, and how it should be applied. When this Parliament votes money to be expended by the Territories, the control ceases, or should cease, as regards this Government as to how the money should be expended. It is now expended by the North-west Government, and with all respect to the hon. gentleman, I believe it will continue to be expended on the responsibility of the executive of the North-west Territories, and solely on that responsibility. As to the provincial powers not asked for: Allow me to say that there are certain powers now exercised by the Government of the North-west exactly to the same extent as they are exercised by a province. This has been done with the consent of the Government here, with the consent of Parliament, and by reason of the necessities of the case, and this is likely to continue. The first of these is the expenditure of money that comes properly within the control of the assembly. The other matters are in relation to education, in regard to which the Government of the Territories has as full powers as the legislature of any province: in regard to legislation with respect to property and civil rights, as to which the Territories have the same rights as a province, and also in regard to municipal organization, in respect to which also the Territories have the same powers as a province. The points in which they lack the power of a province are points