

reports of committees, besides being present at committee meetings, all at the same time.

Mr. KING (Kootenay): The following information has already been put on Hansard:

Among other expenditures which have been assumed by the government from time to time, there are the following: Cartier square; that dates back to the time when the government assumed the maintenance and upkeep of Cartier square for \$9,510 a year. Then there is Major Hill park, which the government took over some years ago, and have maintained at an annual cost of \$19,512.14; Wellington street and Plaza, which is maintained and repaired by the government at a cost of \$12,710 per year; Laurier avenue bridge, which crosses the canal, and for which the government pays \$1,002 per year for maintenance, lighting and repairs; Chaudiere slide bridge, which the government maintains at an annual cost of \$1,951; that is a very old item. Then there is the maintenance of Union bridge at a cost of \$500; Pretoria avenue bridge maintenance, \$4,278. Bronson avenue bridge \$955; Bank street bridge, towards which a subsidy of \$80,000 was paid on which we pay interest at 5 per cent per annum, amounting to \$4,000; the Interprovincial bridge, towards which a subsidy of \$212,500 was granted at 5 per cent interest, amounting to \$10,625 annually; St. Patrick street from Sussex to bridge, maintenance \$4,285. Then there are certain amounts for lighting generally, in addition, making a total expenditure for all the items I have given of \$70,000 odd.

In addition to the foregoing there are minor expenditures for lighting generally amounting to \$1,011.40. Then there is a payment for water service at so much per gallon, \$42,000. In addition the Ottawa Improvement Commission receive a grant of \$150,000 per year. The total of these figures would be about \$365,000 per year.

Mr. CALDWELL: Does that include this \$100,000?

Mr. KING (Kootenay): Yes.

Mr. CALDWELL: What services does the city render the government for this \$100,000?

Mr. KING (Kootenay): There is the policing of the city, fire service, sewage service, and so on. Government property in the city of Ottawa is not assessable for taxes. We pay this subsidy more for services rendered and we do not admit the liability to taxation.

Mr. CALDWELL: If the government proposes to pay taxes on salvaged soldier settlement lands I would have no great objection to the payment of this \$100,000, otherwise I would protest against the increase in the grant to the city of Ottawa which is made in lieu of taxes. The government may not admit that, but that is practically the sum and substance of it. The minister has mentioned police services, but as I understand it, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police are on duty in Ottawa in connection with all the government buildings; in fact, you can hardly turn around

without running up against one of them. I am not finding any fault with that, but it is their function to protect Dominion government property; they have no jurisdiction, I understand, over any other property, neither do the city police have jurisdiction over Dominion government buildings. As to the salvaged soldier settlement lands, I understand the government have never refused to pay taxes on them until the soldier settler leaves them, even though the soldier had made no payments on them; but as soon as these lands are rented to some other citizen, yielding more revenue even than when the soldier settler was on them, the government refuse to pay the taxes. I would like to know if the government propose to change their policy in regard to paying taxes on these lands that have been salvaged.

Mr. KING (Kootenay): This bill is to provide for the payment of a special subsidy to the city of Ottawa, the national capital, for services rendered to the government for the people of Canada through the facilities provided by the city. As to the matter of taxation of government property outside the city, in the various municipalities, that question might be raised, but it has always been understood that a grant might be made to the capital city that would not be considered in the smaller towns or other districts. As to the government paying taxes on soldier lands, I think that is a matter that might more appropriately be discussed on another occasion.

Mr. CALDWELL: I realize that the question of soldier settlement lands does not come under this vote, but I think we might ask for a declaration of policy on the part of the government in this regard.

The CHAIRMAN: It does not come under this minister's department.

Mr. CALDWELL: I know, but fortunately we have other ministers present to-night.

The CHAIRMAN: The discussion of soldier settlement lands is not relevant to this bill. That matter was inquired about and spoken to when the bill came up.

Mr. CALDWELL: I did not happen to be here on that occasion.

The CHAIRMAN: That does not necessarily mean that the whole debate has to be gone over a second time.

Mr. CALDWELL: I do not wish to transgress the rules or to impose on the committee in any way, but I do think that at this time