

plan which will provide for a less expensive or less commodious building, though we might require a larger building.

Mr. BENNETT. The city of Ottawa is no party at all to the agreement between the company and the government, and both the railway company and the government can ignore the city altogether.

Mr. PUGSLEY. But we shall not.

Mr. BENNETT. Where is the proof? Supposing that in three months the Grand Trunk Railway come to Ottawa and say: We will build such a hotel as provided for in the plans but will construct one costing only half a million dollars, under this arrangement, the government could agree to that.

Mr. PUGSLEY. Does the hon. gentleman not see the absurdity of his contention? The city was anxious to have a first-class hotel and the Grand Trunk Railway expressed its willingness to build if it could secure a certain site. This is the site it selected, and it said: if we cannot build there, we will not build at all. The city negotiated with the company regarding what concessions it should give the company in the matter of taxation and came to an agreement with the company.

Mr. BENNETT. Simply for the purpose of assessment.

Mr. PUGSLEY. Even so, the city and the company have come to an agreement, under which the hotel and the station are to be built according to these plans and specifications. As at present advised, I am prepared to recommend to the Governor in Council the acceptance of these plans and I do not propose recommending the acceptance of any other. Surely the committee can trust the government to insist upon these plans being carried out.

Mr. BENNETT. And no other plans?

Mr. PUGSLEY. No other.

Mr. FOSTER. Section 2 ought to be left out entirely. It applies to something apart altogether from the object of this measure. It provides that:

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.

That has nothing at all to do with the sale of this property to the Grand Trunk Railway for the purpose of erecting a hotel. If we want to give the money to the Ottawa Improvement Commission, we should do so by voting an appropriation for that purpose, and in the meantime let this money go into the consolidated fund and become part of the revenue of Canada.

Mr. PUGSLEY.

Mr. PUGSLEY. This has been agreed to by a resolution of the House.

Mr. FOSTER. I know that, but you are not obliged to go to the full extent of the resolution.

Mr. PUGSLEY. Where is the objection?

Mr. FOSTER. The objection is this that you are proposing a new expenditure which is alien altogether to the agreement between the Grand Trunk Railway and the government. We have an Ottawa Improvement Commission to which the government has given certain money and may decide to give more, but that is a matter which ought to be dealt with separately. If it be made part of this Bill, we shall have to inquire into the necessity for the application of this additional \$100,000 to the credit of the Ottawa Improvement Commission. That commission has been already provided with a considerable sum from the Dominion treasury and it has gone into a wide and ambitious system of improvement. I believe it has gone to the limit of its means, and you are now proposing to give it another \$100,000. Before we give that money, we must have information as to the policy of the government as to how this money is to be expended and so on. The government here are taking up two different matters. There is the public appropriation and the power to sell lands for entirely different purposes from those to which they are now devoted.

Mr. PUGSLEY. This matter was carefully considered before. After consultation with the minister this Bill was decided upon. We thought it better that the Bill to provide for the sale of the property should also provide that the money should not go for ordinary purposes but should be used for further improvements to be made in the park. And, as my right hon. friend the Prime Minister says, this is regarded by the government as a sacred trust and the money is to be used for the further improvement and development of the park down to Nepean Point.

At one o'clock, committee took recess.

Committee resumed at three o'clock.

On section 1,

Mr. PUGSLEY moved:

Provided, however, that if the Grand Trunk Railway Company so requests, the conveyance of the said land may be made to the Ottawa Terminal Railway Company, incorporated by Act 67, Edward VII., chapter 117.

Mr. LANCASTER. In regard to this matter I wish to reiterate what I said earlier in the session, that I think the whole thing is wrong in principle, and I have heard nothing since to change my opinion about it. I am more than ever of the opinion that this is a bad bargain, and one that should not have