

it. If I am asked my opinion I would say there is no question whatever about it. The Grand Trunk liability is absolutely intact.

Mr. CAHILL: About what would that liability amount to?

Mr. MEIGHEN: It all appears in these papers. That information will be found about page 50 and the next two or three pages.

Mr. CAHILL: That is the \$97,000,000?

Mr. MEIGHEN: That is on page 51. Guarantees by the Grand Trunk Railway Company have been made for the Grand Trunk Pacific of \$97,201,253—\$62,422,000 for principal and interest, and \$34,879,253 for interest only. Detail of this is in an attached statement. Twenty-five million dollars of the foregoing total of \$62,422,000 is guaranteeing loans made by the Dominion Government. That \$26,000,000 covers the \$10,000,000 and the \$15,000,000 to which I have just referred. In so far as guarantees in respect of the Grand Trunk Pacific are concerned, that would appear to be all.

Mr. CAHILL: Suppose the Government were to hold the Grand Trunk to their obligations in respect of the Grand Trunk Pacific, about how much money would it take to settle their obligations?

Mr. MEIGHEN: It would take the whole thing to settle it.

Mr. CAHILL: The \$97,000,000?

Mr. MEIGHEN: Yes, of course, because that is the liability. But the Grand Trunk will naturally claim: "We have security for that, we have the Grand Trunk Pacific." And, if they are able to show that that security is a commercial asset and affords ample protection, the arbitrators may find that that liability amounts to nothing. But in our opinion, in my opinion certainly, the arbitrators would not likely so find. If the security in the Grand Trunk Pacific was equal to the obligations against it, the Grand Trunk would not have announced themselves two years ago at the end of their tether, nor have stated a few months ago that they could not operate the road any longer.

Mr. CAHILL: If the Grand Trunk were able to pay \$30,000,000, would that relieve them of their obligations?

Mr. MEIGHEN: It would not to me.

Mr. CAHILL: What I want to get at is this. According to the stock exchange reports the total value of the first, second and [Mr. Meighen.]

third preference and the common stock, on September 11, 1919, was \$28,000,000. That is all the assets that is left in the Grand Trunk to arbitrate. My hon. friend claims that \$30,000,000 would not offset their obligations. Then why do you guarantee the \$27,000,000 worth of what is called guaranteed stock? Why do you guarantee that stock and put it out of your reach if you are going to hold the Grand Trunk to their obligations?

Mr. MEIGHEN: Does not my hon. friend see that the \$28,000,000—I do not know whether he has figured it rightly—is the value as reflected in the market, and in that reflection the Grand Trunk's liability was taken into account. Does he imagine that anybody who buys Grand Trunk stock pays no attention to Grand Trunk liabilities, including its liabilities to the Grand Trunk Pacific? So if the reflection in the market is a correct reflection—and personally I do not think so—the Government would have to assume the liabilities, including the Grand Trunk Pacific, and pay this besides.

Mr. CAHILL: Certainly not.

Mr. MEIGHEN: The hon. member shakes his head and smiles as if I did not understand it.

Mr. CAHILL: Quite so.

Mr. MEIGHEN: We will hear my hon. friend at it.

Mr. CAHILL: The minister said this afternoon he did not understand much about stocks. I can believe that. The total value of these stocks as reflected by the stock exchange is \$28,000,000. The minister just stated that he would not consider \$30,000,000 a sufficient sum to settle the Grand Trunk's liability to Canada. But there is another asset in the Grand Trunk at the present time, and until this legislation goes through, amounting to \$27,000,000 more, and that is the \$60,000,000 worth of guaranteed stock quoted in the market at 45. That makes its value \$27,000,000. In the last few days it has gone up to 60, which means that my hon. friend has made it possible for some persons to gain \$9,000,000 on account of this legislation. My hon. friend takes precautions to make this \$60,000,000 worth of stock safe from the actions of the Canadian Government in respect of the Grand Trunk's liability to the Grand Trunk Pacific, and he only leaves himself about \$28,000,000, if that is the worth of the stock, to cover the total obligations of the Grand Trunk with respect of the Grand Trunk Pacific. I do not see