

toba boundary to Mattawa, which is about one thousand miles, and from the Muskoka district to the Transcontinental railway, which is about two hundred and fifty miles, we are considered as northern Ontario. Is that because we are not considered civilized enough to be treated as the rest of the province is treated? I do not know, but at all events we are treated as a separate portion of the province. Financially, our part of the province is administered by that special organization to which my hon. friend from North Timiskaming referred, the northern development branch. Each year that branch is allotted \$5,000,000 for colonization purposes; that is for agriculture, roads, bridges and so on. That amount has been granted annually for many years. The representatives of our party in the provincial house, and indeed all members of the opposition in Toronto, have been trying to get a detailed account of that expenditure, but they have been unable to do so; as a matter of fact, they have been even laughed at. The amount voted for northern Ontario for the same purposes since 1929 is \$10,000,000 but no detailed account is rendered. I am positive, or almost positive, that the money is spent in northern Ontario all right, but in what way, or when, we do not know, although we do know in large part who receives it. The distribution of that money is left to the discretion of that organization called the northern development branch.

Mr. LAPOINTE: Is that a board?

Mr. HURTUBISE: It is a commission; it represents the provincial government in northern Ontario. This organization has been exploiting our finances for political purposes, and I am ready to prove that statement. I say that we only see the colour of this \$10,000,000 during two or three or four weeks around election time, and only political friends and favourites have the opportunity of getting a portion of it, either under contracts or in order to provide work for their friends. I have the proof of these statements before me.

It is suggested that the province of Ontario is to be given a blanket sum of money to spend in northern Ontario and no account of that spending is to be rendered. We are asked to vote \$20,000,000, and I am informed by the Prime Minister that the government intend to build from four to six hundred miles of new highway in northern Ontario. He states also that this money is to be given to the provinces and that the federal govern-

[Mr. Hurtubise.]

ment will not meddle in the administration of any works because to do that would be a violation of the rights of the province. We are asked to vote this large sum of money, part of which will pass to the province of Ontario, which in turn will hand it over to the northern development branch to be used for political purposes, as has been the case in the past. We should not vote any money when we know in advance that it will be used for political purposes. I know for a fact that during the last campaign before people were permitted to work on the roads they were asked to state whether or not they were Conservatives, and if they were going to vote for that party. Before they received any money they had to sign an affidavit that they had voted Conservative. I have the original of one affidavit before me.

Mr. CASGRAIN: Read it.

Mr. HURTUBISE: I will read it first in French and then translate it into English. The affidavit in French is as follows:

District de Sudbury,
Province d'Ontario.

Moi, Aurèle Rhéaume, de la ville de Chelmsford, dans le district de Sudbury, fais serment et dis:

Que j'ai voté à la dernière élection le 28 juillet 1930 pour le candidat conservateur G. B. Nicholson.

Assermenté devant moi, ce 30ième jour de juillet 1930.

Aurèle Rhéaume.

(Signé) J. Alex Bastien, N.P.

The English translation is as follows:

District of Sudbury
Province of Ontario.

I, Aurèle Rhéaume, of the town of Chelmsford in the district of Sudbury, do swear and say:

That I voted at the last election on July 28, 1930 for the Conservative candidate G. B. Nicholson.

Aurèle Rhéaume.

Sworn before me on July 30, 1930.
J. Alex. Bastien, N.P.

If we are to vote \$20,000,000, a great portion of which is to be handed over to the province of Ontario to be in turn handed over to the northern development branch, then it is time for us to protest against such a procedure. I have before me another affidavit which confirms the affidavit I have just read.

Mr. CASGRAIN: Read it.

The CHAIRMAN: I think we are wandering far afield from the resolution.

Mr. HURTUBISE: I want to find out how this money we are asked to vote is to be expended. I know how public moneys are dis-