

I hope that the Minister of Public Works will continue to look after the interests of the smaller communities as well as of the larger ones that can have a delegation wait upon the minister headed by influential members of the House of Commons.

Mr. THOMSON (Grey). I do not think that the leader of the opposition (Mr. Borden, Halifax) does justice to the hon. member for West Huron (Mr. Holmes). That gentleman did hold out inducements—a post office, dry dock and other public works—to the electors to support the Liberal candidate. But he made amends for it on the following Sunday, when he lectured in the Young Men's Christian Association and I understand his subject was, 'The Right Road to Heaven.' I am glad to hear the hon. Minister of Public Works say the fact that North Grey had elected a member in opposition to the government would not interfere with the department spending money in public works there. The government derive a large revenue from the town of Owen Sound. We have no public building. I believe it would be in the interests of the country, even as a matter of economy, to erect a public building there. I asked the hon. minister last night if he would let us know the amount expended by the government for rent in Owen Sound. It was a very considerable sum, and I believe that if it were capitalized it would pay for the erection of a splendid building. Therefore, I hope the hon. minister will not refuse to consider the erection of a building because the riding has sent a representative in opposition to the government.

Mr. BROCK. The hon. member for Saskatchewan (Mr. Davis) attacked me just now, stating that I had headed a deputation that asked the government for the expenditure of \$250,000 in Toronto. In the first place—

THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. If the hon. gentleman (Mr. Brock) wishes to criticise anything I have said—

Mr. BROCK. No, I am criticising what the hon. member for Saskatchewan said. He told us how extravagant the late government were and how wrong the expenditure of public money in his constituency had been and stated that I had called upon the hon. minister at the head of a deputation to ask for the expenditure of \$250,000 in Toronto. If the hon. gentleman's (Mr. Davis') other statements about drawing stone and leaving sand and so on, in his constituency, were exaggerated to the same extent as his statements about me, he has not added much strength to the government's case. I can assure the hon. gentleman that what he has stated as to my demands on the government on behalf of the city of Toronto is ridiculously exaggerated.

Mr. DAVIS. I would like to ask the hon. gentleman (Mr. Brock) a question: Does

he mean to say that he did not attend with the delegation that waited upon the Minister of Public Works to ask for the expenditure of an amount of public money on Toronto?

Mr. BROCK. Most assuredly I say so. Either the hon. gentleman (Mr. Davis) was misinformed or else he is wilfully stating what is untrue. I was one of a deputation that called upon the minister to ask him for \$50,000 for the Dominion exhibition, which \$50,000 was to be expended largely for the country from which the hon. gentleman (Mr. Davis) comes, in paying freight on cattle and other products from there to be exhibited.

Mr. DAVIS. I am credibly informed, and I think I am right, that the hon. gentleman (Mr. Brock) was with a delegation that asked for \$250,000 which, if not to spend in the city of Toronto, was to be spent on Toronto harbour improvements. Was that not the same thing?

Mr. BROCK. I say I was with no such delegation.

Mr. DAVIS. I hope, then, that we may conclude that the hon. gentleman does not approve of that expenditure of \$250,000.

Mr. CLARKE. It seems to me that the Minister of Public Works had to go far afield to find an argument to justify some of these items when he brought up the fact that a delegation had waited upon him a few days ago asking for an expenditure on behalf of the city of Toronto.

An hon. MEMBER. That was the member for Saskatchewan (Mr. Davis).

Mr. CLARKE. No, the hon. minister (Hon. Mr. Sutherland) made that statement in the early part of the evening. The hon. member for Saskatchewan was not in his place. But that makes no difference. If the Minister of Public Works had been as frank as we have generally found him in making explanations to this House, he might have explained for what purpose the sums asked for were required. A committee, non-political in its character, and headed by the mayor of Toronto, who is a Liberal, came to ask for a grant in aid of the Dominion exhibition. He was supported by gentlemen, a large number of whom are supporters of the government and on the directorate of that exhibition. And what was it they asked for? I think hon. members will agree that the Toronto Industrial Fair offers the best opportunity that is afforded, from one end of Canada to the other, and year after year, for those who are producers, to exhibit their products to the best advantage. For the last twenty-five years the Toronto exhibition has done a great work, whose benefits have not been confined to Toronto or Ontario, but have been as wide as the Dominion. The splendid progress which has been made by the Domin-