

ridings and place himself on record, but he did not do it. Neither did the right hon. Minister of Trade and Commerce.

Mr. SAM. HUGHES. How about the hon. Minister of Justice?

Mr. BENNETT. The hon. Minister of Justice does not belong to the province of Ontario, and he was not called to go into that province. I did not see the hon. Secretary of State invading either of these ridings on this occasion. So, we find that these members of the government from the province of Ontario have barricaded themselves and placed these great strongholds about themselves so that when the general election comes on in the province of Ontario they will be able to go there and say: We said nothing in favour of the extension of this railway beyond North Bay at all. Don't you see what it is going to do for Ontario? We got a little pointer in this regard in the city of Toronto the other day, because this line is to be bonused liberally by the local government and the province of Ontario is to prove the great milch cow. The hon. Mr. Ross is bonusing these lines very liberally connecting with this system, and he tried to justify his position in the local legislature the other day. He said that the Grand Trunk Railway is practically and pre-eminently an Ontario system. He said: Look at what we are going to do for the great province of Ontario. In the first place we are going to build up Ontario. There has been a great cry always for Mr. Ross to build up Ontario. Are we not, he asked, going to build up all the lake ports of Ontario? Experience proves, and time will justify the belief that the real carrying trade of the west has to come to the head of Lake Superior and from the head of Lake Superior it has to come down the great lakes to different points on the Georgian Bay and Lake Huron. That will be a great line for these hon. gentlemen opposite to exploit. Take for instance, the hon. member for West Huron (Mr. Holmes). The hon. member for West Huron will go into his constituency this fall and say: It is true that this railway is going to cost a lot of money, but you must not believe the story about \$150,000,000. It may cost \$150,000,000 if the road is built clean through to Moncton. But, do not let any man run away with the idea that it is going to be built to Moncton. It is expected that the great bulk of the grain is going to be carried by vessel from the head of Lake Superior. Then he will say: Do you not see what the result will be? We, here, are on the line of commerce. Goderich can be built up and will become a great place. We have the promise of hundreds of thousands of dollars from this government to be spent in improving our harbour. As soon as this Grand Trunk Pacific Railway is built you will see millions and millions of bushels

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of grain coming into Goderich. Do not believe the story that there is ever going to be a bushel of grain going through by rail. That is simply a myth. Then the hon. member for North Simcoe (Mr. McCarthy), will go to the people of Collingwood and assure them that it is an absurdity to believe that there is ever going to be a bushel of grain carried down to the east by rail. In confirmation of that he will instance the statement of the hon. Minister of the Interior (Mr. Sifton), that all the grain of the Northwest Territories will be water-borne, and then he will point to the fact that the harbour of Collingwood is to have a few more hundreds of thousands of dollars spent upon it to deepen it. Then they will come to Midland. Probably the hon. Postmaster General will come back there. He had an experience there which did not prove very pleasant to him. I hope the hon. gentleman will come back to Midland and make one of those promising speeches of his. What is the promise that will be made there? Don't you see, as the hon. Minister of the Interior has said, that not a bushel of grain is ever going down over this railway system? It is the height of folly to say that this grain will be rail-borne. It is going to be water-borne and borne by the way of Midland. Do not run away with the story that they are repeating in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Quebec about the carrying of grain down there by rail. They never intend to do it. And so through every part of the province of Ontario the representation will be made that they are going to bring this grain down from the Northwest by the water route. Then, the hon. member for Essex (Mr. Cowan), will make the same appeal to the people of his constituency. I suppose the hon. member for Kent (Mr. Stephens), will make the discovery that by dredging the river Thames they will be able to bring down these boats from the head of Lake Superior and that these boats will be taken up this river. Every hon. gentleman in the province of Ontario will be going through his constituency with the assurance that they are going to build up every port of Ontario. What is to be said in the other provinces? They will have the statement of the right hon. Prime Minister that this line is going to go through to the maritime provinces. On the face of it the whole thing is a government political railway, backed up by government friends, and the essence of the agreement as to the letting of contracts shows conclusively that there is a great scheme of graft at the public expense in this arrangement.

I really feel flattered to know that there are so many ministers present while I am addressing the House, for it is seldom that such a compliment is paid to one of us. Why, there are more ministers here to-night than when the hon. the leader of the oppo-