

to find the money for it, but assuming that it would come out of the road.

The MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND CANALS. We assumed from the first the possibility that the balance might be on the wrong side of the account. But the Order in Council, I think, makes no distinct provision for the payment of money, but authorizes the road to be run as part of the Intercolonial Railway, those who were running to pay wages and other expenses incident to the operation in the same way that they pay the charges of the Intercolonial Railway.

Mr. HAGGART. Will the hon. gentleman state whether the Auditor General objected to the payment of this amount, and if he objected, was there an Order in Council overruling his objection?

The MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND CANALS. I have heard a good many objections from the Auditor General, but I do not know that I have heard any on this particular point. I do not know whether the matter had reached him or not.

Mr. FOSTER. My hon. friend cannot tell whether the Auditor General has reached it or whether it is hanging around the purlieus of the suspense account of the Intercolonial Railway. I have no doubt that the hon. gentleman (Mr. Blair) has been wily enough not to have it brought before the Auditor General.

The MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND CANALS. The hon. gentleman must know that I am anything but wily.

Mr. BORDEN (Halifax). I desire to ask under what statutory authority such an Order in Council could be made. I have been looking at the Act of the Department of Railways and also the Government Railways Act and I cannot find in these statutes any authority for the Governor in Council to make such an order. Perhaps the hon. Minister will explain that.

The MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND CANALS. I am quite willing to accept the hon. gentleman's (Mr. Borden's) assurance that no such authority can be found.

Mr. CASGRAIN. I do not like to detain the committee at this hour, but I am sure that the hon. member for Bonaventure (Mr. Guité) must have been disagreeably surprised when he heard it announced that it was the intention of the Government not to continue to run this road. One of the principal reasons for the hon. gentleman's election was that his friends, if not himself, promised that the road should be run by the Government. They held this Government up to the admiration of the people down there. Look at this good Government. As soon as they come to power our railroad begins to run; and if you vote against Mr. Guité the road will cease running immediately. The

promise was held out that not only would the road continue to be operated if the hon. member was returned, but I heard the hon. member himself make a speech on nomination day at Caplin in which he said that not only would the road continue to be operated by the Government, but that he had no doubt that if he was returned he would get a subsidy of about three millions to continue the road down to Gaspé. I am sure that the hon. gentleman is much disappointment at what he heard from the Minister of Railways this evening.

Mr. GUITÉ. (Translation.) It is likely enough, I may say, that on nomination day I may have told the voters of the Bonaventure county that should I be returned to this House, I expected to see the Government operate the Baie des Chaleurs Railway, and further, that the Government would go on with the work on that railway. But I did certainly not give any pledge to the electors that the Government would prosecute the completion of that railway, nor did I tell my constituents that I had received from the Government any pledge to the same effect. I merely told them, on nomination day, as I already stated, that I had good grounds for hoping that the Government of the day would assist us and push the railway works to completion, not only in my own riding but also in that of Gaspé. I deeply regret, I must say, that the Government have not seen their way to going on with the building of the Baie des Chaleurs Railway, and even reaching the county of Gaspé. I am sorry to see that the work has been stopped. But before long, I hope the Government of the day will deal fairly by the Gaspé territory, and will make arrangements with one of the companies or otherwise for the purpose of prosecuting the work; and still better, the Government, I hope, will take to their own charge the building of that railway which is bound to so largely benefit the whole Gaspé section.

Mr. BERGERON. I myself heard the hon. gentleman on the day of nomination at Maria, when he was far more keen than he is to-night. He told the people there that the good Government that we have now in power, the best Government we ever had since this country existed, had taken hold of the Baie des Chaleurs Railway, and it would be a calamity to Canada not to vote for him because then the Government might get discouraged and stop the railway. But he said if he was elected not only would the Baie des Chaleurs Railway then existing be operated by this good Government but, more than that, he would obtain over three millions of dollars to take that railway down to Gaspé Basin; that the steamships coming across the ocean would come in the basin of Gaspé and there would transmit the mails to that railway, and that altogether it would be the greatest boon for Gaspé that could be