

27. Make Halifax a national port ;
Make Halifax a free port.

28. Provide storage, at a nominal rate of the capacity of 100,000 barns, with the result that the government is to embark in the warehouse business.

Those are the leading features of the scheme of the leader of the opposition.

Mr. DAVIS. They are going to build barns.

Not Afraid of Spending Money.

The POSTMASTER GENERAL. Yes, and they will be getting under the barns pretty soon. Now, Mr. Speaker, in introducing that scheme, the hon. gentleman declared that it would involve a limited expenditure of money. But what is money for, he asks. Money is made to spend, he tell us. Now I do not want to misquote the hon. gentleman, and I will try to prove step by step what I attribute to his authorship, especially as I do not observe him in the House. On page 9296, of the 'Hansard,' he says :

"The people of this country are not afraid of spending money if it is spent in a sane and reasonable way."

Then he proceeds to give his ideas of sanity. I have myself given you these particulars. He says after referring to some of the government's proposals :

"There is no reason to be afraid of spending money. I am not afraid of spending money and the country is not afraid of spending money."

He tells us that neither he nor the country is afraid of spending money and he asks us to adopt that policy. Now, although the hon. gentleman may not be afraid of spending money, perhaps those who are responsible for the expenditure and perhaps the taxpayers as well would deem it not a waste of time to consider from the standpoint of cost alone what the scheme of the hon. gentleman does involve. Our scheme, limited to an investment with the exception of a few years at the commencement when we pay interest or forego rent, involves a cash outlay by this government, not to be recovered, of not exceeding \$13,000,000. That is the cost to the country of the government proposition.

Mr. CLANCY. How does the hon. gentleman know that it is going to be \$13,000,000 ?

The POSTMASTER GENERAL. Well, that is a little over the estimate. The actuarial estimate puts it between \$11,000,000 and \$12,000,000, but I have given a margin. Thirteen million dollars is all that our little modest scheme involves in the way of money going out that does not come back. I must say that I blush at our modesty when considering what is involved in the magnificent scheme propounded by the hon. leader of the opposition. Let us analyze it. I do not think there will be much difference on either side of the House as to the cost excepting always of course the view of that hon. gentleman, who puts down the cost of our scheme at the trifling sum of \$560,000,000. I am surprised at his modesty. But taking the scheme and trying to actually reach an intelligent idea as to what the scheme of the hon. leader of the opposition involves. I think we can, without much difficulty, arrive at a fair conclusion.