

was in the hands of the minister who is here authorized, and of the Canadian National management, who also are here authorized to proceed immediately with it and to take for the purpose \$3,500,000 of money which this parliament voted for other purposes and not for the purpose of the Vancouver hotel. As my hon. friend would say, "That is the position with respect to that". I am speaking with some feeling, I admit.

Mr. MACDONALD (Richmond): Always do.

Mr. DUNNING: Yes, I am speaking with some feeling because my hon. friend to-night sought to fasten upon me an arrangement which I never consented to, always protested against, and refused to have anything to do with. In fact, so far from accepting it, this order in council passed by my hon. friends opposite did not satisfy me and did not satisfy the government of which I am a member. I recommended the cancellation of it; my colleagues accepted that recommendation and it was cancelled. I will not go further into details as to what was contemplated as the result of this order in council. It is not an arrangement of which my hon. friend is personally proud, I know, and yet he was the finance minister of the government which authorized it by the document I hold in my hand.

Now with respect to the Halifax hotel—having cleaned up Vancouver as well as I am able—with respect to the Halifax hotel I have just this to say. With regard to Vancouver the charge is made against me by hon. members opposite and by their press that I had cancelled this order in council—this order I had been referring to, passed by my hon. friends opposite—that I had cancelled it at the behest of the Canadian Pacific Railway because they had an hotel in Vancouver. Nay, it was further stated by gentlemen who sit opposite and by their friends, that I had been bribed by the Canadian Pacific Railway by having an hotel built by them in the city which I have the honour to represent. That was published broadcast through the press of western Canada, at least that portion of the press willing to publish that sort of thing.

Mr. BENNETT: Were they sued for libel?

Mr. DUNNING: They were not sued for libel. I—well, I guess I had better not say it; I will stay within the rules. Now, the estimates presently under consideration by the house, recommended by Sir Henry Thornton and the management of the Cana-

dian National Railways, include an amount of \$100,000 towards the construction of an hotel in Vancouver. I can tell my hon. friends it will not be constructed on the plan they devised; it will be constructed in a business-like way. Now reverse the situation and let us go to Halifax. There my hon. friend is seeking to prevent the Canadian National from building an hotel. May I ask, is he acting in the interests of the Canadian Pacific Railway, as I was accused by his party of doing when I did what was my public duty in regard to the Vancouver matter? My hon. friend has himself on occasion, when I have taken a position with respect to the department and its affairs, intimated somewhat sneeringly that I am working in the interests of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Mr. BENNETT: Name me an instance when that was said.

Mr. DUNNING: My hon. friend frequently did during last session. I am within the memory of the house, and my hon. friend will find it in Hansard of last session. It was possibly intended as persiflage, but not of a very pleasant kind.

Mr. BENNETT: You will not find it in the records of the house. I have said it to you personally on the street when we have walked down.

Mr. DUNNING: My hon. friend might search Hansard; I will help him. If he does he will find something which he would not like to see.

Mr. BENNETT: If personal observations of that kind are repeated in the house, well and good.

Mr. DUNNING: Be that as it may, all that I said last night with respect to the Halifax hotel stands to-day. I believe that Sir Henry Thornton is right when he says that whatever may happen to the other hotel the Canadian National hotel at Halifax will develop business and will ultimately succeed. To-night my hon. friend stressed the supposed loss of \$100,000 a year which may be incurred in operation on the Canadian National hotel system. If we take his remarks seriously at all he must be arguing that therefore we should not build or own hotels. But he is too wise for that in reality; he knows that the value of a hotel to a railway system does not depend upon the earnings of that hotel but that it has a relation to the traffic handled by the railway. All our hotels are great traffic producers for the