

C 55958

Federal District Commission

Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett

April 26, 1928.

(House of Commons - Third Reading of Bill -
Revised Hansard page 2399-2400).

....."Personally I have held a very strong view for some considerable time as to the undesirability of any legislature or parliament tying the hands of succeeding legislatures or parliaments with respect to annual expenditures.) That idea may or may not be sound, but I do not think that when matters of policy are affected - and matters of policy always are affected in relation to grants of public moneys - this parliament should tie the hands of two or three succeeding parliaments.

Not denying that parliament has always the right to repeal legislation, I submit that it is undesirable to create vested rights with respect to legislation; and the undesirability of such a policy can never be more apparent than it is in this particular measure.....

"I cannot but think that the principle involved - the principle which the right hon. gentleman when in opposition always contended should be applied - is the soundest possible principle with respect to the expenditure of public money. No parliament should create a condition which leaves a succeeding parliament under the necessity of either repealing existing legislation with respect to which vested interests or rights may

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