

Mr. Jackman: The minister has been good enough to say he will give a breakdown of probable expenditures. Will he also give us a breakdown of the estimated federal revenue? We have been given two figures, \$20 million and \$27 million. I am sure that each of the items which go to make that up—and there are about nine or ten listed in the pamphlet—was the subject of considerable discussion between our delegation and the Newfoundland delegation. I believe we are entitled to know on what the estimate is based.

Mr. Abbott: I could give that at once. I have that here if my hon. friend wishes it, but I have to put the expenditure item over until tomorrow.

Mr. Jackman: If the minister would table it, I think it might be quite adequate.

Mr. Abbott: Perhaps I might do that at the same time tomorrow afternoon.

Mr. Jackman: May I ask the minister whether or not there are any outstanding tax agreements between Newfoundland and any taxpayers in the former dominion. If there are any such agreements, is it to be the policy of Canada to honour them?

Mr. Abbott: On the question of the agreements to which my hon. friend refers, the colony or dominion of Newfoundland has entered into agreements, for income-tax concessions and customs concessions, with certain corporations in Newfoundland. In the terms of union there is a provision, section 27, subsection 4, which reads:

The government of the province of Newfoundland shall not, by any agreement entered into pursuant to this term, be required to impose on any person or corporation taxation repugnant to the provisions of any contract entered into with such person or corporation before the date of the agreement and subsisting at the date of the agreement.

The "term" referred to in that clause is the term enabling them to have a tax agreement with the dominion. The tax concession agreements to which my hon. friend has referred are agreements which of course were entered into with the government of Newfoundland and not with the government of Canada. The policy to be followed with respect to those agreements will be a matter for this parliament to decide.

Mr. Jackman: The minister does not care to express an opinion on the policy which he thinks would be a fair one in the circumstances? After all, there are certain agreements in Newfoundland with high contracting parties, certain sovereign powers. I presume those agreements might be respected in the same way as taxation agreements. In other words, would the minister care to say whether the policy in the case of a high con-

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tracting party such as the United States will be different from the policy for an ordinary taxpayer?

Mr. Abbott: Of course, the agreements to which my hon. friend refers are contracts, and there is in the terms of union nothing that deprives the contracting parties, the beneficiaries of these tax concessions, of any legal right which they have. Newfoundland will of course become a province of Canada, and residents of Newfoundland will become subject to Canadian laws.

The Deputy Chairman: Order.

Mr. Fleming: There is one point I should like to raise. Someone suggested that the information should be tabled. I suggest that it ought to be put right into *Hansard*.

Mr. Abbott: It is not lengthy, and I think my hon. friend's suggestion is a fair one. I will put on *Hansard* early tomorrow afternoon the heads of estimated expenditures and the heads of estimated revenues.

Sections 23 and 24 stand.

Progress reported.

PRIVILEGE

REFERENCE TO REMARKS OF MR. ABBOTT IN ANSWER TO QUESTION ON THE ORDERS OF THE DAY

Mr. Alan Cockeram (York South): Before the house adjourns, I rise to a question of privilege. I did not do so earlier for the reason that it was necessary for me to check the *Hansard* record to make sure of the words used by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Abbott). I wish to refer to the statement made by the Minister of Finance earlier this afternoon in which he implied that, in putting the question I asked before the orders of the day, I did so as a representative of special interests. Referring to myself he said:

I am aware of the special interest which he has in the matter.

I ask the Minister of Finance to withdraw that statement. I asked the question because the gold mining industry has a far-reaching influence on the general economy of Canada, and on the welfare of every Canadian citizen. My only interest is that of a Canadian, and I resent the imputation contained in the minister's words.

Mr. Abbott: Mr. Speaker, of course I have nothing to withdraw.

Mr. Cockeram: You certainly have.

Mr. Abbott: I said what I know to be a fact. My hon. friend has a special interest in the subject on which he questioned me. I