

Mr. ARMSTRONG. This pier has been built for a number of years, it stands out in the lake and the only possible way to get on or off it is by a ladder. The approach has been obstructed by the owners of the land for several years. What is the use of spending \$25,000 on this pier and allowing it to stand out in the water as a monument?

Mr. PUGSLEY. My hon. friend is entirely right. When the pier was built it was supposed the government owned the land between it and the shore but private owners made a claim to the land and the Department of Justice reported their claim well founded. We were finally obliged to expropriate the property.

Mr. ARMSTRONG. Does it take two or three years to do that?

Mr. PUGSLEY. It took considerable time to arrive at a conclusion as to whether the claim was well founded. I agree with my right hon. friend that it is desirable to get this adjusted as quickly as possible.

Mr. ARMSTRONG. That is a useful pier and because of its incompleteness the people have suffered great inconvenience for years. The department has not acted in a business-like way. Will the approach to the pier be completed within the next few months?

Mr. PUGSLEY. It is the intention to proceed as soon as possible. We cannot do anything until we get the money.

Mr. MARSHALL. Has the minister any idea of establishing a life saving station at Port Stanley?

Mr. PUGSLEY. That is a matter for the Department of Marine.

Mr. HENDERSON. It was my intention to discuss on the Ontario item for harbours and rivers the question of constructing piers or groins along the shore of the western end of Lake Ontario.

Mr. PUGSLEY. There is an item in the British Columbia estimates under which that discussion might more properly come.

Mr. HENDERSON. The British Columbia item is the only parallel case in the estimates, but I fear I may be precluded from discussing the matter under that item because of the recent ruling of the chairman. If it is understood that I will be permitted to raise the point on the item for the Fraser river I will not delay the committee now.

Mr. PUGSLEY. It might be understood all round that the hon. gentleman could do that. He might argue that this item should not pass for British Columbia un-

less similar work were done in his constituency.

Mr. SPROULE. Is it not much more regular to discuss an Ontario matter such as this under the public works items for the province of Ontario?

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER. I would much prefer for myself that the discussion should take place on the items now before the Chair.

Mr. HENDERSON. Very well. The Minister of Public Works is aware that along the north shore of Lake Ontario adjacent to Burlington Beach, and at another point distant two and a half miles to the east, the waters of Lake Ontario are causing the erosion of the shore and the indentations are now very deep. The roadway along the lake shore was established fifty, or it may be 100 years ago, and it is practically now put out of use. The farmers are suffering from the fact that their land is being washed away. In one instance near the town of Bronte a gentleman who owned a farm there 25 years ago, told me that at that time there was an apple tree growing on the lake shore 120 feet from the lake, and that now that apple tree was gone and the waters of the lake washed over the spot where it grew. Thus, 120 feet of that farm has been lost in 25 years. This is too serious a matter and too expensive for an individual or for a municipality to deal with, and I appeal to the Minister of Public Works to do something to prevent this washing away of the land which I believe can be easily done by building groins or piers out into the lake so that the waves may wash up the gravel and sand in such a way as to form new accretions of earth. I drew the attention of the minister to this last year but he was not disposed then to give me any great encouragement. However, I am pleased to say that since then he has been good enough to send an engineer to the village of Burlington to examine these erosions and see the damage that they have done. I had the pleasure during the Christmas recess, of accompanying the engineer over the ground, and I invited him to visit a point two and a half miles east of the village. Though he told me he had no instructions to go beyond the village of Burlington, he was good enough to visit that point with me, and there he saw where the county council of Halton had built a pier about 75 feet long out into the lake opposite one of these erosions. But this work is too expensive for either the township or the county to undertake. I think it is a matter that the country should deal with. It is the navigable waters of Lake Ontario that are doing the damage, and therefore the country as a whole is bound to see