

Supply—Transport

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

Canal services—

607. Operation and maintenance—further amount required, \$30,000.

Mr. Green: According to the details on page 23 this \$30,000 is required for professional and special services. Can the minister tell us how this amount is made up?

Mr. Harris: This is for the construction of a model of the Gut dam in the St. Lawrence river. We have an explanation of the nature of the model, but I think it must be obvious that the model was constructed so that one could study the problems which arose from blowing up the Gut dam.

Mr. Green: Is this a model of the Gut dam or of the river after the Gut dam was blown up? I understand that the Gut dam was removed.

Mr. Harris: Yes, but we have had two things to consider there. The first was the original claim of the shore owners for damages caused by the construction of Gut dam; and then, as you may recall, the Gut dam was removed. We also have difficulty now in that some others think perhaps they have been damaged accordingly.

Mr. Macdonnell: Is the model being made to help meet the claim for damages. What is the idea behind it? Why should there be any claims for damages in a case of that kind?

Mr. Harris: We are hoping there are not but this is to find the results of the water flow with the Gut dam gone. We had certain statistics before, but this is to provide information as to the present circumstances.

Item agreed to.

Marine services—

608. Nautical services—administration, operation and maintenance, including grants and contributions for the purposes indicated in the details of the estimates; rewards for saving life from vessels in distress; subsidies to salvage companies, and the payment of expenses, including excepted expenses, incurred in respect of Canadian distressed seamen as defined in section 306 of the Canada Shipping Act—further amount required, \$57,000.

Mr. Macdonnell: Part of this vote is for subsidies to salvage companies. Could the minister tell us which companies are getting the subsidies and what amounts they were paid under the main estimates in addition to the present amounts?

Mr. Harris: To Foundation Maritime Limited in Montreal an amount of \$40,000, to be paid August 31, and \$35,000 to be paid

does seem to be a formidable figure. I suggest that we be given some information upon which that figure was based.

Mr. Harris: As I say, I hope you will have it by ten o'clock.

Mr. Hees: Will the minister advise when the building was built, its floor space and the number of floors? Will that information be forthcoming.

Mr. Harris: I hope so.

Mr. Brooks: Does that include garage accommodation as well?

Mr. Harris: Maybe an underground shelter. Item stands.

Architectural branch—

Acquisition, construction and improvements of public buildings—

602. Saskatchewan, \$350,000.

Mr. Ellis: Would the minister explain this item?

Mr. Harris: The amount in the original estimates was \$1,050,000. Then there is an additional \$700,000 item, and the further amount required is \$200,000. I beg your pardon, the original estimate was \$1,050,000, of which \$700,000 was provided in the main estimates. Then there was a deferred vote of \$150,000, leaving a balance of \$200,000 which is being provided by this vote.

Item agreed to.

Engineering branch—

Acquisition, construction and improvements of harbour and river works—

Construction, acquisition, major repairs and improvements of, and plans and sites for, harbour and river works listed in the details of the estimates, provided that treasury board may increase or decrease the amount within the vote to be expended on individual listed projects—further amount required—

603. Newfoundland (\$113,900, less the amount of \$113,899 available from savings in other listed projects detailed in previous estimates for 1954-55 for this province), \$1.

Mr. Herridge: I notice there is an item of \$36,200 for a retaining wall at St. Lawrence, the province of Newfoundland to pay one-half the cost. What was the purpose of that retaining wall?

Mr. Knowles: Probably just "small wood".

Mr. Harris: This is a retaining wall 800 feet long required to maintain material dredged from the harbour.

Mr. Herridge: I just want to comment that when it comes to building a retaining wall in Newfoundland it is considered the joint responsibility of the federal and provincial governments, but when they want to build on the Columbia we are told it is the responsibility of the provincial government only.

Item agreed to.