

Hon. H. R. EMMERSON (Minister of Railways and Canals). This is a revote; the matter was fully discussed last year.

Mr. A. MARTIN. During this session I asked for some correspondence about the location of this road. I think the minister will find it in the 'Hansard' of February 3. I asked for a return of the correspondence in connection with the location of this station and it would be of some service to us in the discussion.

Mr. EMMERSON. My hon. friend will have an opportunity of discussing this in connection with the supplementary estimates. The return has not yet come from Moncton. We had to send to Moncton for copies and they have not been returned, otherwise I would have had it laid on the table before this. The whole subject was very fully discussed last session.

Mr. A. MARTIN. There has been a very great deal of delay in the location of this station. The matter has come up frequently and several delegations have come to see the minister about it.

Mr. EMMERSON. A delegation came to see me about it at Moncton before I came here in the early part of January or the end of December.

Mr. A. MARTIN. It is very important that this station should be built without any more delay. We have found in Prince Edward Island that delegations come here with some object in view, one time about a railway station and---

Mr. EMMERSON. The trouble is you do not agree.

Mr. A. MARTIN. The people of the province are put to the expense of these delegations and I think it would be better if the minister went down. We have heard that the minister was going down to settle about this, and I would like to know if he is going down.

Mr. EMMERSON. I did promise this delegation from the Board of Trade that I would go over, that was on the eve of the session and I had hoped that I might be able to steal away for a few days, but the weather conditions which have prevailed since and my duties in parliament made it impossible for me to leave, and I do not now anticipate that I shall be in a position to go until the close of the session, at which time I purpose determining the question of site. It is one with reference to which there is a great difference of opinion among people without regard to any political phase of it, and I have very great difficulty in determining the location. I have to bear in mind the interests of the railway, the question of expenditure, and I would like, as far as possible, to consult the convenience of the people. I find it quite impossible to do that without hav-

ing some personal knowledge, because after all I have to bear the responsibility to this House and be able to answer any objections.

Mr. A. A. McLEAN. Has the hon. minister any option on any particular land in Charlottetown? I notice on page W-43 of the Auditor General's Report that there is a charge of \$1,500 for land taken for increased accommodation at Charlottetown and option \$14. Will the hon. minister explain that?

Mr. EMMERSON. That was \$1,500 paid for land we purchased from the province of Prince Edward Island. It is near the end of the Hillsboro bridge.

Mr. A. A. McLEAN. I do not think there is any government land there.

Mr. EMMERSON. It is land covered with water, I believe, required for the use of the railway, and was purchased from the province.

Mr. A. A. McLEAN. I should think that would be the property of the government of Canada.

Mr. EMMERSON. We would hardly purchase from the government of the province land which belonged to ourselves. The railway track is between the water and this land, and this land belongs to the province. The titles were searched and deeds passed in connection with them.

Mr. A. MARTIN. I find a vote in 1904-5 for \$115,000 and in 1905-6 of \$108,000. That would indicate there was an expenditure of \$7,000.

Mr. EMMERSON. That is a misprint. The \$115,000 should be \$110,000. We estimate that \$2,000 will be spent before the 1st of July and we ask for a revote of \$108,000.

To dredge and blast rock at deep water terminus at Halifax, \$18,000.

Mr. EMMERSON. Last year we asked \$30,000 and the estimated expenditure during this year is \$12,000. The object of this dredging and blasting is to give 30 feet of water at low tide. We are asking for a revote of \$18,000. This work cannot be carried on expeditiously. They do not seem able to make as much progress as we hoped for. Therefore only \$12,000 are likely to be expended out of the \$30,000 during this fiscal year.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. What depth of water have you at present?

Mr. EMMERSON. About 28 feet.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. I suppose there is 30 feet of water along a portion of the dock?

Mr. EMMERSON. Yes.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. This is to extend that area?