

reference to the great capacity of the elevators at Buffalo. I might point out that the capacity of the elevators at the head of the lakes in the province of Ontario, at Port Arthur and Fort William, is very much greater than the capacity of the elevators at Buffalo. No doubt there are many places that would like to have elevators and where we would like to build them. My hon. friend from Lethbridge would like to have an elevator, but unfortunately the revenues are falling and we have to wait until they are more buoyant than they are to-day.

Mr. EVANS: The minister has already stated that part of this vote will go towards the operation of the new elevator at Halifax. As far as I know, no grain passes through Halifax, and has not for some years, with the exception of some little that the Canadian National have hauled down there, when it was convenient, to ballast some of their boats. Can we get any information as to the amount that passes through that port?

Mr. LOW: This vote includes the cost of the operation of the elevator at Halifax. I have not the figures at the moment as to the quantity of grain passing through that port. As I stated before, the old elevator was not in good condition, but we are hopeful that with the construction of the new elevator a greater quantity of grain will pass through Halifax.

Mr. McTAGGART: Where are the various elevators that come under this item located?

Mr. LOW: At Calgary, Edmonton, Moose Jaw, Saskatoon, Port Arthur, and the new elevators at Halifax and Prince Rupert.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: What about Port Colborne?

Mr. LOW: That is under Railways and Canals.

Mr. STEVENS: How does the minister account for the increase of \$55,000? There cannot be any increased cost in wages, rates and so forth.

Mr. LOW: The Edmonton elevator would take up almost the entire increase.

Item agreed to.

Maintenance and necessary equipment of elevators (including repairs and renewals to plant, machinery, equipment and trackage; and the installation of Carter disc machines and flax cleaning machines, etc.), \$80,000.

Mr. STEVENS: Was all of this item spent last year, and how does the minister base the needs for the coming year?

[Mr. Low.]

Mr. LOW: Perhaps I could not do better than read the estimate as presented to the department by the board:

Canadian Government Elevators

Estimated financial requirements: Fiscal year 1925-26:	
Maintenance and necessary equipment of elevators:	
Repairs and renewals to present plant..	\$15,000
Repairs and renewals to existing machinery and equipment..	8,000
Supplies and loose equipment..	3,000
Repairs to trackage, Port Arthur (\$15,000 renewal of last year's appropriation not expended)..	35,000
Upkeep of elevator trackage..	7,000
Eavestroughing track sheds and cupola, Moose Jaw and Saskatoon (revote)..	1,500
Painting signs, Moose Jaw and Saskatoon (revote)..	1,000
Painting signs, Edmonton..	1,000
Purchase and installation of Carter disc machines and necessary motors, Saskatoon and Moose Jaw..	9,000
Purchase and installation of additional flax cleaning machines and necessary motors, Port Arthur (revote \$4,000)..	5,000
Purchase and installation of grinding equipment and necessary motors, Edmonton..	4,500
Construction of fireproof building at Moose Jaw to house inspection staff, millwright, power house repair shop, and possibly elevator office (renewal of 1924-25 appropriation)	10,000
	<u>\$100,000</u>

This is an amount much in excess of the vote asked for, but when the estimate was presented to the department we, in a desire for the most rigid economy, reduced it to \$60,000.

Mr. STEVENS: These two items total \$535,000 covering the operation and maintenance of the government elevators. Am I right in regarding that as the total expenditure?

Mr. LOW: You are adding together items 360 and 361?

Mr. STEVENS: Yes.

Mr. LOW: You are right.

Mr. STEVENS: Can the minister give us what the earnings of the government elevators were last year, so that the committee may be able to form an idea of the value of the business to the country?

Mr. LOW: I have the figures in detail. The statement is quite lengthy, and perhaps I had better hand it to the reporter so that it may appear on Hansard.

Mr. STEVENS: I should like to hear the totals for each elevator?