

Dredging—Manitoba..... \$8,600

**Mr. LaRIVIERE.** I hope the hon. Minister will give some explanation as to the work to be done this year on the Red River. Is there any dredging to be done elsewhere than at the mouth of the Red River?

**The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.** We have the dredge "Winnipeg" and the tug "Sir Hector" there. It is estimated that the sum of \$8,000 is necessary for the working expenses of that dredge.

**Mr. LaRIVIERE.** Where will the dredge be employed?

**The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.** At the mouth of the Red River, dredging from the sand-bar that is there. The same kind of work that was done last year.

Dredging—British Columbia..... \$15,000

**Mr. MONTAGUE.** Is there any work to be done at the entrance of the works at Vancouver?

**The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.** No, my attention was called to it by the report of the chief engineer lately, and if my memory serves me right, I have given instructions that some work should be done immediately there. Mr. Coste wired me two weeks ago.

Dredging—General service..... \$5,000

**The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.** A good deal of this is used to pay part of the salaries of the officers in Ottawa, who were at work on the dredging. We have in Ottawa a general superintendent, Mr. Goodwin, and he has a staff around him.

**Mr. BERGERON.** He has a salary?

**The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.** He has been employed fifteen years. He has a salary of \$1,200 a year, and he has a staff of officers. That \$5,000 is just in the same line as the item we have discussed for harbours and rivers.

**Mr. FOSTER.** There is not a dollar of it spent on dredges?

**The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.** It is in connection with dredging operations, and is the same vote we have had for the last twenty-five years.

Slides and Booms..... \$5,000

**The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.** I have no details of that amount. If the House will pass it, I pledge myself to bring down the details before concurrence is taken.

**Mr. HUGHES.** I would like to ask the Minister what was the revenue last year from the St. Maurice River boom.

**The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.** On the St. Maurice River last year the collections amounted to \$28,893, against \$22,090 for the previous year.

**Mr. TARTE.**

**Mr. MARCOTTE.** (Translation.) How many men are in the employ of the Government there?

**The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.** (Translation.) We have ten permanent employees.

**Mr. MARCOTTE.** (Translation.) I will avail myself of the opportunity to protest against the unfair treatment meted out to one of the oldest and most faithful employees at the St. Maurice River Boom. I do not think any investigation has taken place in his case, and I believe he never interfered in politics. He discharged his duties faithfully and he was dismissed in order to make room for a partisan. I deem it my duty not to allow this item to pass without registering my protest.

**The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.** (Translation.) All I have to say in this connection is that I have made several changes at the St. Maurice River Boom, and when the hon. gentleman knows what has come to my knowledge within these few last days, he will agree that I was perfectly right in making those changes.

Roads and Bridges—

Dominion traffic bridges throughout Canada, including approaches..... \$5,000

**Mr. BERGERON.** What is that for?

**The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.** We have several bridges in the North-west and on the Ottawa River, and this is for maintenance.

Bridge across the Saskatchewan at Edmonton, N.W.T..... \$25,000

**Mr. FOSTER.** I will ask my hon. friend (Mr. Tarte) to allow this to stand. It has stood for some time.

Maria Street Bridge, over the Rideau Canal—Re-construction ..... \$10,000

**Mr. FOSTER.** What is the reason that this has not been expended?

**The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.** Because I did not ask enough. I am going to ask more in my Supplementary Estimates. I am sure the hon. gentleman will help me as he knows the matter will have to be attended to.

**Mr. HUGHES.** Is the Government going to ask for tenders for this work?

**The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.** Yes, the work will be let by contract.

**Mr. BERGERON.** Is the Government obliged to build this bridge?

**The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS.** Yes.

Sappers' Bridge, Ottawa, extraordinary repairs.. ..... \$2,000

**Mr. SPROULE.** What is meant by this expression "extraordinary repairs"?