

\$9,000 for motors. Inspection work in all provinces is on a larger scale than it was a year ago and requires a larger expenditure.

Mr. COPP: But the motors make a difference of only \$9,000. Has there been a reorganization of the office and staff since last year? I want to know what accounts for the increase.

Hon. Mr. REID: Last year we only had Mr. Grant at the time the vote was passed. The others came on later in the year and we have to provide for their salaries. The work had not been really organized or got very far ahead and the engineers of the department handled it and kept the organization moving. Then we appointed permanent inspectors and their salaries in full are required for the year.

Mr. COPP: Who is the inspector for the provinces of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, and when was he appointed?

Hon. Mr. REID: Mr. Dick is the inspector for the provinces of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. He is an engineer and was employed on railway construction.

Mr. CASGRAIN: On the Quebec and Saguenay.

Hon. Mr. REID: Yes on the construction of the Quebec and Saguenay railway.

Mr. COPP: Is he a former resident of the province of New Brunswick?

Hon. Mr. REID: I could not say.

Mr. PARENT: What is the amount of the Budget that will be at the disposal of the Commissioner of Highways?

Hon. Mr. REID: The hon. member will recall, of course, that a vote of \$20,000,000 was passed. Each province is entitled to its share of that, and the commissioner and his staff will have supervision of the expenditure. The money has to be expended within a period of five years. Some provinces will perhaps expend more of the proportion allotted to them in a year, and others will perhaps expend less. The staff must supervise and audit the expenditure and see that it is made in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

Mr. PARENT: I would imagine that the Commissioner of Highways, who is to have the control of the expenditure of such a large amount of money, should be paid a larger salary than \$5,000 a year. Although not in favour of lavish expendi-

[Mr. J. D. Reid.]

ture I should think that a professional man, such as a civil engineer, who occupies such a responsible position, should be paid a larger salary, and if the minister wishes to do justice to an efficient official he should see to it that his salary is more commensurate with the responsible duties which he discharges.

Mr. CANNON: Would the minister be good enough to tell the committee what amounts, out of this \$20,000,000, have already been expended, what amounts are to be expended this year, whether any balance will remain after this year's outlays, and, if so, what that balance will amount to?

Hon. Mr. REID: The money has been divided as follows among the provinces: Prince Edward Island, \$603,455; Nova Scotia, \$1,468,720; New Brunswick, \$1,163,845; Quebec, \$4,748,420; Ontario, \$5,877,275; Manitoba, \$1,602,265; Saskatchewan, \$1,806,255; Alberta, \$1,477,810; British Columbia, \$1,251,955. As to the expenditures already made they were given in reply to a question put in the House on April 12. It shows that Ontario had received \$295,100 of its share; British Columbia had received \$86,446.52; Prince Edward Island, \$40,264.79; and Quebec had received up to that time \$56,374.19, but a day or two afterwards additional payments made raised the total to \$109,000.

Mr. CANNON: Those are the expenditures for the last two years?

Hon. Mr. REID: From the time the Act came into force up to the present.

Mr. CANNON: Then there was not half a million dollars spent?

Hon. Mr. REID: There was not anything paid last year; there was very little work done. But these highways are all under way now, and from this time forward the expenditures will be made in larger amounts and at a much faster rate.

Mr. CANNON: What are the estimated expenditures for this year? It strikes me as rather extraordinary that we should maintain a large staff and provide them with salaries and automobiles, when only half a million dollars has been spent in two years, unless there has been a change in policy.

Hon. Mr. REID: There was very little expenditure last year on the staff and organization, but the commissioner tells me that, as nearly as he can estimate, we