

Supply—Northern Affairs

on one occasion I became aware of an inventory agreement arranged with the government of B.C., and I may say I also know something about cruising timber. On that occasion I found out that the federal government had not made any check on the claim by the provincial government with respect to an inventory survey in a certain area. What is done to satisfy the federal government that this money is being expended properly as a result of the agreement?

Mr. Benson: Mr. Chairman, I of course would have to take this up with the Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys to obtain a detailed answer. I would be glad to do so and before the money is paid I will undertake to obtain a memorandum from the Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys concerning this item.

Item agreed to.

12e. Subventions under agreements entered into pursuant to the Atlantic Provinces Power Development Act in respect of electric power generated from eastern coal during the fiscal year 1965-66, \$700,000.

Mr. Peters: Mr. Chairman, is this the total of the subventions we have paid under this item for the year?

Mr. Benson: No. The total amount required was \$2,500,000 of which \$1,800,000 had been provided in previous estimates. This is to provide for the balance.

Item agreed to.

45e. Administration, operation and maintenance including grants and contributions as detailed in the estimates, \$1,400,001.

Mr. Howard: Mr. Chairman, there is an item of \$18,600 here as a contribution to the Northwest Territories government toward the cost of construction of a water line to the Yellowknife jail. What is the total cost of constructing the water line and what is the federal government's contribution to it?

Mr. Benson: The total amount required from the federal government is \$72,000 of which \$53,400 had previously been provided. The sum of \$18,600 is being provided in this particular item.

Mr. Howard: What is the total cost?

Mr. Benson: Again the reference I have is \$72,000. I just do not have the information here. The lowest tender for the construction required a contribution of \$72,000. An additional item of \$18,600 is required to pay the territorial government for the balance of our contribution of \$72,000. I do not have the

[Mr. Herridge.]

total cost but I will be glad to supply the information to the hon. member.

Mr. Howard: It seems to me that a water line to the jail at Yellowknife costing a minimum of \$72,000 must be quite a water line.

Item agreed to.

The Deputy Chairman: This concludes the supplementary estimates of the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources. We will now consider the supplementary estimates of the Department of Agriculture.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Production and marketing—

17e. Grants, contributions and subsidies in the amounts and subject to the terms specified in the subvote titles listed in the details of the estimates, \$42,439,500.

Mr. Howard: Mr. Chairman, it seems to me that everything happens at Skeena all at the same time. One thing happened in the last few days which I feel I must mention here under this item. It involves the proposal to build an addition to the grain elevator in the city of Prince Rupert. Initially the grain elevator was built in 1926 or thereabouts. At that time it was designed so that its structure could be duplicated on the other side, thus doubling the capacity of the elevator. For the last six years at least there has been a rather concerted campaign by interested organizations and groups in Prince Rupert and by myself to get the elevator extended, especially in view of the large grain shipments which are being made through western ports to China and we hope to other nations as well.

We were pleased when the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources, who presumably makes all announcements about things in British Columbia, announced that the government was going to proceed to construct the addition to the grain elevator, but we were not so pleased last Friday when a decision was made not to proceed with the construction because of what were claimed to be inordinately high tenders.

I would like to submit two points for consideration of the department. First, I think that the department itself or the Board of Grain Commissioners, whichever one did it, underestimated the potential cost of adding to the grain elevator. I believe that by underestimating they were able to look at the final bids which were submitted and say they were inordinately high and construction could not be proceeded with. If one looks casually