

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. I will. The city of London is much interested in it.

Mr. HAGGART. Will the work be let by contract?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. My officers tell me that some repairs there cannot be done by contract. I suppose the main work will have to be done by contract, but I cannot pledge myself now as I do not know sufficient of the work.

Mr. HAGGART. What is the estimated cost?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. \$16,000.

Mr. HAGGART. Surely that is sufficient for the Minister to get the work done by contract. Has the Minister any suggestion from the chief engineer for a new plan by which the harbour would be prevented from drifting up as it has done before?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. Mr. Coste made some suggestion about changing the course of the river, but so far we have not come to that conclusion.

Mr. CLANCY. How much was expended out of last year's vote?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. \$1,900.

Port Stanley—Assistance towards harbour improvements..... \$10,000

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. This vote is to grant assistance to the Lake Erie and Detroit River Railway Company to the amount of one-third the estimated cost of constructing a suitable slip. We did not pay it last year because the company did not go on with the work. When they do, the money will be paid.

Mr. HAGGART. What is the estimated cost of the slip?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. \$30,000, and this is one-third.

North Bay—Pile wharf..... \$15,000

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. We have asked for tenders but we have not adjudicated upon them yet.

Mr. HAGGART. What is the estimated cost?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. Not more than \$15,000. Tenders have been asked.

Meaford—Pile work and dredging..... \$8,500

Mr. CLANCY. Will this amount cover the whole work?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. A contract has been given to Mr. Sparling for \$2,500, and the balance is requisite to extend the inner harbour by dredging from 13

Mr. HAGGART.

to 14 feet at low water, from below the old bridge towards the new bridge.

Mr. HAGGART. I suppose you have a report in the department that this can be made a good harbour?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. Yes.

Mr. CLANCY. Does this complete the work?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. It will complete the work. It is by tender.

Lake Manitoba—Opening of additional outlets to prevent overflow of lake, and maintenance of same at proper level for navigation purposes..... \$25,000

Mr. DAVIN. This requires some explanation.

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. The work has not yet been begun, but I intend going on with that work as soon as possible.

Mr. HAGGART. The hon. gentleman has a curious way of expressing it. "Opening of additional outlets to prevent overflow of lake and maintenance of same at proper level for navigation purposes." It looks as if the hon. gentleman were afraid the water would get too high in the lake for navigation purposes.

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. What my officers meant to say was that the lake overflows at certain times and covers the adjoining lands.

Mr. HAGGART. Then it is a work purely for local purposes—to regulate the overflow into the neighbouring country.

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. That is part of the work, of course. We want to construct works which will keep the water at a certain depth and improve the lake for navigation purposes.

Mr. HAGGART. How is the hon. gentleman going to do that and what is the estimate of the total cost?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. I shall not spend a cent more than this. I have not made up my mind as to the process. Mr. Coste, my chief engineer, is away and I therefore cannot give as much information as I would like, but it is a work to which he has given his personal attention. This is only a revote from last year.

Mr. LaRIVIERE. Have any soundings been made in the lake. It is a very shallow sheet of water, and I know it overflows on some sides, especially the east side, but the question is if the water is taken away from the lake, will not that injure navigation instead of improving it. The water is very shallow, and the lake is not navigable except in the centre, and there are very few approaches where a wharf can be laid down