

Mr. CARVELL: This is an estimate that was given to me by Assistant District Engineer Cunningham on January 18 last. He gives the items, so many creosoted logs, so many poles, stone ballast, and so forth, and he puts the amount at \$1,100.

Mr. McKENZIE: The block to which I refer was driven ashore and possibly can be got back into place again at a very small cost. Will the repairs be done by day's work.

Mr. CARVELL: The amount is so small I do not believe it can be done otherwise. It merely consists of putting in here and there a few logs and poles, and things of that kind. I think it must be done by day work.

Mr. McKENZIE: I would suggest that the work be attended to as soon as possible, otherwise the usefulness of this wharf will be impaired.

Mr. CARVELL: It will be attended to. Just as soon as the money is voted it is the intention to proceed with all these works at the earliest possible moment.

Feltzen South — Repairs to breakwater, \$1,100.

Mr. DUFF: I regret to say that this item should not be necessary. This breakwater has been completed only five years. In my judgment, if the work had been properly done in the first place, by persons who understood the construction of a breakwater, it would not be necessary to spend this amount of money five years after its completion. Tenders were called for this work about six years ago, and a tender was put in for about \$12,000. For some reason best known to the department that tender was not accepted. New tenders were called for, and the contract was awarded, I think, for \$15,000. In addition to this, after the work was started, some changes were made, and the total cost amounted to \$17,000. I might say that the reason the work is not satisfactory is because the contract was awarded to a tailor, the foreman was a mason, and the inspector a shoemaker. That is how the public money was spent. I was very pleased to hear this afternoon that the Minister of Public Works is making a change in the way such work will be done. I might say, as far as the engineer at Halifax, Mr. Morrison, is concerned, and Mr. Freeman, the gentleman who generally has charge of work in Lunenburg county, both are excellent men, and the minister is safe in taking work of this kind out of the hands of politicians,

and leaving it in the hands of competent engineers. I would suggest to the minister that, on account of the conditions under which Mr. Freeman, the engineer, has had to work in the last few years, explicit instructions be given him not to notice politicians on either side. If that is done, it will satisfy me, and be in the public interest.

Mr. CARVELL: I want to assure my hon. friend that the engineer was notified some four months ago to do exactly the things that he is suggesting to-night.

Jamesville — Completion of breakwater, \$2,000.

Mr. McKENZIE: This is an old friend of the minister and myself.

Mr. CARVELL: I don't recognize it, I am sure.

Mr. McKENZIE: I would like to know what he is doing about this breakwater. It was never any good, and never will be. It will have to be born again before it will be of any service to the country. I have always said to the minister that any expenditure on it should be dropped under its present plan of construction, and that it should be rebuilt. We had some correspondence about this work last winter, and last summer I had it up in this House. I stated then that there was no use spending money on it until there was a different plan and a new beginning. Last winter, whatever remained in the water of that magnificent structure was thrown over, and there is nothing at all standing there now, as I am informed by the people in that community. I advise the minister to get proper plans prepared, and to go about the work in a businesslike way. It was always too small a structure for the purpose intended. A proper plan was prepared in 1910 or 1911, and a vote put in the Estimates, as will appear in the records of the department. After the change of Government, the matter was dropped altogether. For political reasons, it was found necessary, in 1914, I think, to erect something that would look like a breakwater, and a small vote was put in the Estimates, and a frail structure was planned by the advice of some politicians, and that thing was put in the water. But the Bras d'Or lakes were not in sympathy with political connivings, they were unwilling to stand for any camouflage or fooling of that kind and the force of the tide smashed the structure. I ask the minister to go back to the proper plan of 1910. The work