

Mr. PUGSLEY. Not as yet, but new dredging plant is very urgently required. This is to build or acquire one or more dredges and some tugs.

Mr. SPROULE. You have no plan in view?

Mr. PUGSLEY. I have discussed the matter with the chief engineer and superintendent of dredging. They think we ought to have at least three additional dredges—one for work in the Bay of Fundy, one for work in the Baie des Chaleurs, and the other on the north shore. Then we want a number of tugs. In the operation of the dredge 'Fielding' we ought to have four tugs, and have none available. We have to hire tugs.

Mr. SPROULE. Is this \$100,000 going to build three dredges and four tugs?

Mr. PUGSLEY. No, that will not begin to do it.

Roads and bridges—Shellmouth bridge over Assiniboine river, \$20,000.

Mr. W. J. ROCHE (Marquette). Will the minister explain what has been done in connection with the Shellmouth bridge?

Mr. PUGSLEY. That is under contract. The piers have been completed, and work on the steel superstructure is being carried on as rapidly as possible. The material I think is all on the ground. I hope the bridge will be completed during the present year. The contract was let for the steel work on the 23rd of October, 1907, to be completed a year from date.

Mr. W. J. ROCHE (Marquette). There has been a vote in the estimates for the last four years.

Mr. PUGSLEY. Yes, the work was commenced in 1906.

Mr. W. J. ROCHE (Marquette). The old bridge has been condemned for the last four years, and the people are much dissatisfied with the slow progress.

Mr. PUGSLEY. It is impossible to expedite the work any more. Our latest information is that the work is proceeding quite satisfactorily, and we expect it will be completed within the time mentioned.

Land and cable telegraph lines, lower St. Lawrence and maritime provinces, including working expenses of vessels required for cable service and Marconi wireless telegraph system at Belle Isle, &c., \$120,000.

Mr. SPROULE. How is the Marconi system working?

Mr. PUGSLEY. I think it is giving pretty good satisfaction. But this is a matter coming within the Marine Department.

Mr. BLAIN. Has the minister got a statement of the revenue and expenditure in this connection?

Mr. SPROULE.

Mr. PUGSLEY. The hon. gentleman will find that in the Auditor General's Report.

Harbours and rivers—Quebec harbour improvements, \$500,000.

Mr. J. D. REID. Who has the contract there?

Mr. PUGSLEY. Dussault & Co.

Mr. J. D. REID. What is the total estimated amount this work is to cost when completed?

Mr. PUGSLEY. The work that is going on there is of very great importance. If my hon. friend will come over here I will show him the plans. It will give altogether about 3,000 feet frontage.

Port Arthur and Fort William—harbour and river improvements, \$500,000.

Mr. BENNETT. What is going to be done there this year?

Mr. PUGSLEY. Just the dredging work. We are doing it as rapidly as possible. There will be something done probably in the way of building a revetment wall as well. There is also a breakwater being built at Port Arthur. I may say that for several months, ever since I have been at the head of the department, and I think before that, there has been a strong pressure upon the part of business men of Winnipeg and Port Arthur, also of ship owners, and I think of the boards of trades of those cities, to build a new breakwater out further from the wharf in order to give more sea room to the large steamers which are now frequenting the port. I have decided to accede to the wishes of the people in this respect. The breakwater, when completed, will give more sea room, because further from the existing wharfs. In the meantime we are leaving a portion of the old breakwater and doing some work of a temporary character. The dredging done will give accommodation to the largest steamers on the lake.

Mr. BENNETT. Will the cost of the breakwater come out of this vote?

Mr. PUGSLEY. Yes, part of it.

Mr. BENNETT. What portion of this vote will go to the breakwater?

Mr. PUGSLEY. When the breakwater is finally completed it will cost a great deal more than this vote. For the present year we expect the breakwater expenditure to be about \$100,000.

Mr. BENNETT. How much will the revetment wall cost?

Mr. PUGSLEY. We have not determined upon that yet. I think perhaps we will have to extend that work over a couple or three years as it will be too expensive to be all done in one year. By building the revetment wall as designed by the chief