

sistance? It is only a very small item. In some of these places two or three hundred dollars would pay for a range light to assist these men, and still they are denied this privilege. I simply want to bring this matter to the attention of the minister, and I know it will receive his careful consideration. I desire to refer to the question of a buoy on the Tormentine reef, where the ferry crosses from Tormentine to Prince Edward Island. Perhaps it does not come under this item, but I may not have an opportunity to speak to it again. One of the most expensive ships owned by the Government is on that route and the Captain of that ship has been asking that a steel spar bouy that will not go under the ice be placed on the reef, and I trust that before another winter the department will give that matter consideration.

Item agreed to.

Marine Signal Service, \$80,000.

Mr. LAPOINTE: The amount spent last year was \$74,997.07.

Mr. STEVENS: The Government did so well last year under the previous estimates, will the minister explain the reason of the increase?

Mr. McCONICA: Will the minister tell us whether it is splendid guessing on the part of the man who makes the appropriation, or on the part of the man who spends it? It is susceptible to both explanations.

Mr. LAPOINTE: It must be attributable to both; both must have credit. The amount is needed for increases of salary.

Mr. MANION: I desire to ask a question which, perhaps, should come under the previous item, but it might also be dealt with under this item. I refer to some of the lights that have been petitioned for at various times on Rainy river, an international water in my constituency, running on the boundary between United States and Canada. It is a good sized river, but used a good deal by small craft, fishing boats or small pleasure boats, some freight boats and passenger boats. I have taken it up with the late government, but I have not yet taken it up with this Government.

Mr. LAPOINTE: The hon. gentleman will fare better with this Government.

Mr. MANION: I might have better success with this Government. I think my

hon. friend is probably familiar with it, and may give it kindly consideration some time when he is dealing with this question.

Mr. LAPOINTE: All the demands for aids to navigation are submitted to the lighthouse board. The Deputy Minister of Marine is the head of the board. The superintendent of lights, the chief engineer of the department, and some other officers, and the representative of shipping federation as well, are on this board. Although the minister is an expert on those things, he would like to be directed, to some extent, by that board.

Mr. MANION: I am sure the good officers of the minister would have a beneficial effect on the board.

Mr. LAPOINTE: They are at your disposal.

Item agreed to.

Administration of pilotage, \$300,000.

Mr. GUTHRIE: What does this item mean?

Mr. LAPOINTE: It is for the administration of pilotage. Under part 6 of the Canada Shipping Act, the Minister of Marine has control of 41 pilotage districts including Quebec, Montreal, St. John and Halifax, which are under the supervision of this department. We spent last year \$187,720.46. The increase is due to the condition of the boat which is doing the service at Pointe au Pere. The old ship Eureka is in bad condition, and will be replaced by a tug or motor boat, which will cost a hundred thousand dollars.

Mr. GUTHRIE: Is that included in the \$300,000?

Mr. LAPOINTE: Yes it is included. That is the reason of the increase.

Mr. GUTHRIE: I understand that the minister is the official head of the pilotage districts in Canada, and, in that capacity has to do, not only with granting licenses or certificates to the pilots, but regulating the whole business. My information is that, particularly on the river St. Lawrence, the pilots are rapidly growing wealthy. I have been informed that a pilot on the river St. Lawrence, in the course of a season of four or five months, makes as much as \$6,000. At least, he receives as much as \$6,000 for four or five months' work, and, during that four or five months, he