

Prince Edward Island Railway—New station at Alberton, \$2,000.

Mr. EMMERSON. There were \$3,000 provided last year, and the estimated expenditure during the year was \$1,000. We require a revote of \$2,000, and we shall still require to supplement this by \$2,500 more. We are asking for tenders on three conditions, one to build in stone, one in brick and one in wood. The matter has not yet been finally determined, but I think it will be in favour of stone. The total cost will be about \$4,500.

Mr. LENNOX. Is this a revote ?

Mr. EMMERSON. Last year \$3,000 was provided, and we are now asking for \$2,000. When these estimates were made out in February last it was supposed we would have \$1,000 expended. But that has not been the case, because of delay in deciding on the quality of the material to be used. Therefore this vote should have appeared as \$4,500 instead of \$2,000. As it does appear here we are asking you to vote \$2,000 with the understanding that \$2,500 more will be provided in the supplementaries.

Mr. LENNOX. It does not appear in the estimates that there has been anything expended at all. The \$3,000 voted last year and the \$2,000 this year will make \$5,000. Perhaps this is a mistake in the estimates as printed.

Mr. EMMERSON. Last year we did not expend anything.

Mr. SPROULE. Why don't you call it a revote ?

Mr. EMMERSON. I have it marked here as a revote of \$2,000. There appears to have been two or three errors of that kind made by the printers. They were not made in the Department of Railways and Canals. We estimated the expenditure in February last, and expected that the expenditure during the fiscal year ending June 30 would be \$1,000, and we therefore ask for a revote of \$2,000. But it is now found in view of the material that we will likely use, that we will require this \$2,000. We have not expended a dollar of the vote of last year, and we will require \$2,500 more, making a total expenditure at that point of \$4,500.

Mr. SPROULE. We know the amount will be \$4,500. But I understand the minister to say he has not expended a dollar of the usual vote given last year. Then that is wrong to begin with, and leaves a wrong impression upon the minds of the committee. Have you no proof reader to go over the amounts after they are printed ?

Mr. EMMERSON. We do not have anything to do with them. We send over our estimates to the Finance Department and they are sent forward to the Printing Bureau. They do not come back to us.

Mr. LENNOX. I trust the minister will take some precaution to see that this does not occur again. Here we have

\$2,000 when it ought to be \$3,000, he should have asked a revote of \$3,000. Then there is a mistake in the other column of \$2,000 at all events. Now, there are various items showing the same error. It makes a material difference in testing what is the actual expenditure of the government.

Mr. EMMERSON. I quite agree with my hon. friend.

Mr. HACKETT. Has any action been taken with regard to building this new station at Alberton ?

Mr. EMMERSON. Tenders have been received, but the contract has not been awarded because we have not yet decided whether to use wood or stone.

Mr. HACKETT. I trust the minister will build a first-class station there.

Mr. EMMERSON. We hope to.

Mr. HACKETT. Now, with regard to another matter. Has any action been taken to avoid the Y coming into that station ?

Mr. EMMERSON. The matter is under consideration.

Mr. HACKETT. Have you a report on it from any of your officers ?

Mr. EMMERSON. Yes, I have a report from the officer.

Mr. HACKETT. Will the hon. minister do what he possibly can to abate the nuisance ?

Mr. EMMERSON. Yes, if it is possible to do so we will certainly do it.

Mr. BLAIN. Will this \$4,500 complete the building including heating and lighting apparatus ?

Mr. EMMERSON. Everything. We believe that \$4,500 will be the whole expenditure.

Mr. BLAIN. What proportion will go for heating and lighting ?

Mr. EMMERSON. It will be heated by stoves. There will be no hot water system.

Mr. SPROULE. I understood the hon. minister to say that \$4,500 is likely to be the full cost but he told us previously that he had an estimate for a building in wood, another in brick and another in stone. Which material did he contemplate using when he made up the estimate of \$4,500 ?

Mr. EMMERSON. I am basing that on the idea of utilizing stone.

Mr. SPROULE. If other material is used it will cost less ?

Mr. EMMERSON. Yes.

Mr. HACKETT. There was an amount voted last year for building small stations at Richmond, Northam and Alberton. Are these works being proceeded with ?

Mr. EMMERSON. Yes, they will be completed within the fiscal year.

Mr. HACKETT. The contracts have been let ?