Supply—Public Works

Mr. Green: I would not think that.

Mr. Fournier (Hull): No; I am glad you agree with me, because it is quite a project, running into millions. As one listened to the discussion he would think it was some creek which we wanted to just clean out. If we meet the request of the people out there we shall have to dredge down to 40 feet, and we shall have to widen the channel to a certain extent. I have not the last estimate, but I am going to bring down an item in the supplementary estimates, which will come down in a few weeks, which will be part of the whole amount. The moment the money is authorized we shall ask for tenders and try to get some company to do the dredging. The hon. gentleman would not want me to undertake that work without having an appropriation passed by the house. That is the story. The quicker we pass these estimates and I get on to my supplementaries the quicker we will get on with this work in Vancouver.

Mr. Green: There are two different pieces of work to be done by the department. One is the dredging of the channel, and that is not to be confused with the widening of the channel.

Mr. Fournier (Hull): I know the two. The bigger project we cannot undertake now because it is under study by the national research council, by the national harbours board, assisted by the engineers of public works. It is a special committee that we are now dealing with. What I announced was that we would do some dredging in the first narrows. To my surprise I saw that it would run into millions of dollars. I never thought it was that kind of job. You will see that we are asking for quite a substantial amount in the supplementary estimates. When my supplementary estimates come down I hope the hon. gentleman will not make the statement that they have been increased, because that increase will go to Vancouver.

Mr. Green: When is it expected that that deepening will commence?

Mr. Fournier (Hull): The moment that we are authorized by parliament to spend money we will ask for tenders, probably from the companies out there; and the moment we get those tenders we shall give out the contract.

Mr. Green: Is it expected that the work will be started this year?

Mr. Fournier (Hull): I hope so, because otherwise I would not put it in my estimates. Why should I put it in the estimates if I am not going to try to spend it, at least? Oh, yes, that is my sincere hope. Although I am in favour of the system of tenders, do not criticize me because it takes time. You have to get your contracts.

[Mr. Fournier (Hull).]

Mr. Proudfoot: I rise at this time to draw the attention of the Minister of Public Works to the need of protectional work in the county of Pontiac-Temiscamingue. I first want to draw his attention to the need of protectional work in the vicinity of south Temiscamingue; then, in the vicinity of Fabre. I specially want to draw his attention to certain lots up there, one of them being lot 30, range 2, in the municipality of Fabre, on which nothing has been paid for the erosion done to this property, while the other lots in this vicinity have received some attention.

I would also like to draw the attention of the minister to the need of protectional work at the village of Ville-Marie. There has been some work done there in the past, and we should do more there this year. The same thing applies to College island and in Duhamel municipality. At Duhamel there are lots 53 and 54 on which there has been great erosion. I do not think anything has been done in regard to these lots at any time. Then at the town of Notre Dame du Nord there is great danger of property damage, as it is at that point that the Quinze river enters into lake Timiskaming. There is great erosion just at the mouth of the river above the bridge at Notre Dame du Nord, and I think we should certainly look into it immediately.

I should also like at this time to thank the Minister of Public Works for the co-operation and initiative he has shown in regard to the Allumette island-Pembroke bridge. I feel sure that after the item in the estimates of the federal department and the item in the estimates of the Ontario provincial legislature, it will be only a very short time until we have the full co-operation needed so this project may begin.

I should also like to draw the attention of the Minister of Public Works to the need for repairs of the bridge at Rapides des Joachims. At Bryson, Quebec, we have a bridge we have been using many years. It has served its purpose well, but it should be replaced because the traffic passing over it is much greater than it should be over a bridge of that construction.

Then we also need repairs to the bridge at Portage du Fort. We also have causeways or roadways over the dams at Temiscamingue. There is not room for two cars to pass on the causeway at Temiscamingue, or for pedestrians. So I think the only solution would be for the Department of Public Works to widen the roadway on the dam to Temiscamingue, and also to widen the roadway and causeway on the dam at Angliers. Also they should put up a walk, as they have at Notre Dame du Nord and Chapeau. This would