

APPENDIX No. 74

DEFENCE CONSTRUCTION AT ESQUIMALT—VICTORIA AREA AND
ROCKY POINT

By R. G. JOHNSON

Navy

For the Navy at Esquimalt we have 3 contractors working on four separate buildings.

The largest is a Permanent Barrack Block for 750 men, for which a contract was awarded to Commonwealth Construction Company in December 1951, for completion April 18, 1953. Progress on this building has been very satisfactory. Work was stopped for 12 weeks in the summer of 1952 by a strike of building tradesmen, but the building will be completed by mid-August 1953.

A contract for construction of a P. & R.T. building was awarded to Luney Bros. and Hamilton Limited in September 1952 which was to be completed in September 1953. Because of the delay resulting from the strike in the summer of 1952 this building will not be completed until December 1953.

In December 1952 this same firm was awarded a contract to construct the Pacific Naval Laboratory. Construction started on this building on the 15th of December 1952. It is expected that it will be completed in one year.

Two recent awards are: To the Farmer Construction Company for the erection of a Diesel Workshop. Work started on this project on the 1st of March. The estimated completion date is July 31, 1953. For sub-stations and transformers, for which tenders closed on January 6, 1953. A contract was awarded this month to F. D. Bolton Ltd. in the amount of \$28,700.

Two further contracts will be awarded in the near future: An Electrical Workshop, for which tenders closed on March 17, 1953. An Electrical Service to the Jetty and Graving Dock, for which tenders closed on March 31, 1953.

Army—Work Point Barracks

We have also arranged contracts for construction for the Army at Work Point Barracks which the Committee might consider to be in the Esquimalt area.

At this site two contracts, one with Monarch Plumbing and Heating Co., and one with J. A. Pollard for installation of a hot water system and boiler in Barrack Block 31 were awarded in 1950 and have been completed for some time.

A contract awarded to Luney and Robinson in August 1951 for the erection of a storage shed which was to be completed by the end of October. Construction progressed very well until mid-October, when there was a delay waiting for details of the electrical installation, and a subsequent hold-up waiting for delivery of electrical supplies which were not received until March 15, 1952. Finishing of the interior was of course delayed until the electrical installation was completed. The completed building was turned over to the Army on April 21, 1952.

A contract was awarded to the firm of G. H. Wheaton in October 1951 for the construction of (1), an 180 man Barrack Block and (2), a 500 man Mess. These buildings were scheduled for completion in June 1952. These buildings both progressed very slowly; rain and frost interfered with good progress in the winter of 1951-52, the strike in the summer of 1952 brought work to a stop for 3 months, and there was a shortage of bricklayers in the area in the fall of 1952. The 500 man Mess will be completed within the next few weeks and it is anticipated that the 180 man Barrack Block will be finished in June.