

sure; it is the district engineer who is responsible for all this work. That officer should have visited all these places and reported as to what was necessary.

Mr. CARVELL: I hope the voters in the county of Kent will not blame their member. I have not heard anything from him until to-night, but we will try and make a proper distribution of the blame. I hope he is willing to take his share. I am perfectly willing to take mine, and I presume the engineer is in the same boat.

Mr. LEGER: The only reason the minister did not hear from me was that in view of the abolition of the patronage system I thought any representations which I might make would have very little effect.

St. John River and tributaries—To provide full and final contribution to local government, not to exceed one-half cost of certain wharves built by it in tidal waters, \$5,923.

Mr. LEMIEUX: What is the item for?

Mr. CARVELL: For a great many years there has been a sort of partnership existing in the province of New Brunswick between the federal and the provincial authorities, under which each authority contributed one-half towards the cost of these works. During the past six or eight years however, a number of works were built wholly by the local government.

Mr. LEMIEUX: In connection with the lumber business?

Mr. CARVELL: No, they are wharves on the St. John river and its tributaries. These wharves are used for steamboats which ply on the St. John river during the whole time the river is free from ice, which is about seven months each year, and every wharf was a necessary landing place for the steamers. A number of these wharves were built and the contributions were not made by the Dominion. When I assumed office I came to the conclusion that the work should be assumed entirely either by one Government or the other, and I take it that trade and navigation are matters within the purview of the federal authorities. I met the Minister of Public Works for New Brunswick, and we came to a settlement under which we agreed to pay them \$5,923 to close up the transaction, and the wharves now belong to the Federal Government. The provincial authorities will pass the legislation necessary to confirm the title, and we will get rid of this hybrid partnership which has not produced very much benefit in past years.

[Mr. Leger.]

Quebec, Anse aux Gascons—Repairs to wharf, \$10,000.

Mr. LEMIEUX: Just a word, and then there will be a landslide with respect to all these items. I happen to represent one of these maritime constituencies, and found during my visit last fall that many of the most important works built along the coast had been partially washed away by the seas during heavy storms. I would not, under present circumstances, ask the minister to reconstruct all of these works.

During the past six or seven years the county has been very much neglected. I would not care to ask for the reconstruction of all those works that have gone to waste. But there are two works of vital importance to that coast to give the fishing community necessary shelter. I draw special attention to the wharf at Percé, which has cost the Government nearly \$100,000. Half that wharf has been carried away. If a little patchwork had been done on it two or three years ago, the wharf would have been saved. Percé is the shire town of the county, and I would ask the minister to see that some repairs are made so that the steamers plying between New Brunswick and Gaspé will find proper accommodation there. The other point which is of special interest to the fishermen is called Anse au Beaufils. This harbour has been in existence for several years, but owing to the action of ice and storm, part of the work has been washed away lately. This harbour is a most useful shelter not only for the Gaspé coast fishermen, but also to those from Miscou, Caraquet and other places on the coast of New Brunswick. A few thousand dollars, a very few, would put this harbour in good condition. I make no plea at present for any other works, though the coast of Gaspé extends over a distance of two hundred miles. I emphasize the two works I have mentioned, the Percé wharf and the Anse au Beaufils shelter. From the general appropriation, the minister can spare a few thousand dollars, and his local engineer, Mr. Bertrand, a most painstaking and conscientious officer, can give him all the information on the subject.

Mr. CARVELL: The matter which my hon. friend refers to is, of course, unknown to me personally, but I certainly will give it my consideration and go as far as I possibly can, although, if it amounts to \$40,000 or \$50,000, I fear it would be a pretty serious undertaking. However, I will promise him that I will give it the very best consideration I can.