

the Dominion government built the bridge across. I still fail to see why this calls for the building of a bridge out of the Dominion treasury. The fact that the provincial authorities would have had to get permission by reason of this being a navigable water is of no consequence as the same thing exists with regard to St. John which is a navigable water.

Mr. McLENNAN. Where is St. John, anyway?

Mr. FOWLER. It is a fairly prominent point, the great winter port of Canada.

Mr. FOSTER. Next to Port Hood.

Mr. FOWLER. This is the point I make that the Dominion government have no right to use the money from the federal treasury to build bridges which should be built and maintained by the provinces. They are built by the province in New Brunswick and every other province.

Mr. AMES. So long as that bridge remains a Dominion government property we shall continue to spend \$1,500 or \$2,000 a year in repairing it. When the highway ran along the bar it was the duty of the provincial government to maintain it, and to rebuild it in case the bar should be washed away in the spring. If the Dominion government places the highway in a position equivalent to what it was before, then this bridge should be handed over to the provincial government and the cost of maintenance borne by them.

Mr. FISHER. That would be a question of whether the maintenance now is more expensive. If it is more difficult to maintain the bridge then it may be said that the Dominion should maintain it.

Half Island Cape—breakwater, \$6,000.

Mr. GANONG. What sized boats will this accommodate?

Mr. FISHER. I am informed there will be about nine feet of water at low water. This is under contract. None of last year's appropriation has been expended.

Mr. FOSTER. What will the total cost be?

Mr. FISHER. \$7,500. It was begun last year but the season got too late to go on with the work.

Mr. GANONG. The principal claim made by the member for Guysborough in connection with this was that steamers could not under present conditions, take freight from this point. It seems to me if you have only nine feet of water that a very large steamer could not get into it.

Mr. FISHER. That is nine feet at low water.

Mr. GANONG. You must have the steamer to correspond with the tide.

Mr. FISHER. My hon. friend knows there are lots of places where steamers can get in only at high water.

Mr. SINCLAIR. I have no doubt that the steamer which collects fish along that coast will be able to call on the outside of that breakwater. The water is not deep and it will be difficult for a steamer of any size, but these steamers are small.

Mr. GANONG. It may be necessary to ask another grant next session of \$10,000 to put it out into deep water, may it?

Mr. SINCLAIR. It might be a very good thing to consider.

Hall's harbour, \$6,000.

Mr. FOWLER. How large a place is Hall's harbour and who will be served by this?

Mr. FISHER. This is situated on the south side of the Bay of Fundy about 65 miles northeast of Digby and 12 miles southwest of Scott's bay. It is near Kentville, that is, it is opposite Kentville on the coast. The headquarters of the Dominion Atlantic Railway are in Kentville, and there is considerable traffic to the harbour from the back country.

Mr. FOWLER. Is there a branch line from this harbour to Kentville?

Mr. FISHER. No.

Mr. FOWLER. What the minister has said is, no doubt unwittingly, rather misleading. He would have the committee understand that Halls harbour was the harbour for Kentville and the terminus of this railway.

Mr. FISHER. No.

Mr. FOWLER. But a mountain lies between. Halls Harbour is a village of about twenty families, which had once a little trade, but to-day that trade is gone and no vessels go there. This is just an expenditure to satisfy some private individual.

Mr. FISHER. I have not got information of the exact size of the village, but it is a place some distance from any other harbour along that coast and with what is known as the mountain back of it. The people on that mountain could come here, and there is no doubt a considerable population along the coast who need shelter for their fishing boats.

Mr. FOSTER. What is to be the total cost?

Mr. FISHER. \$8,300.

Mr. FOWLER. There is a wharf there at present?

Mr. FISHER. This is for repairs.

Mr. FOWLER. Do you propose to let the work by contract?