

scheme and vote the money for carrying it out.

An essential part of this bargain all the way through, and of the negotiations, was the co-operation of the Grand Trunk Railway and the town of Collingwood. It was freely offered by them and accepted as the basis of the negotiation, and I was very sorry to see my hon. friend ignore it. I think he will find that the records of his department will confirm this statement, and he should see that that aid is got from the town of Collingwood and the Grand Trunk Railway.

Mr. McCARTHY. The town raised the money for it. They passed a by-law.

Mr. FOSTER. While we had no vote in the spring of 1896, the work was urgent, so we said to the people of Collingwood: If you will allow a portion of your contributions to go to this work, on which we have no money now to expend, that work can be done and paid for out of your money.

Mr. SPROULE. I have a very distinct recollection of the application of the town of Collingwood. The Government contended that it would cost more than the town thought it would cost. The town said \$150,000 will do all the work we required: and if you will do the work, as we have it mapped out by our engineer, we will contribute \$25,000. The town did this. What they asked then was that the outside channel should be 400 feet wide and eighteen feet deep, and that the inside channel should be 600 feet wide and twenty feet deep. That is the way the contract was let and that was regarded as the complete work, which they would be quite satisfied with. That is all they expected and for which they were prepared to give their money.

Rainy River..... \$20,000

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. This is days' work.

Mr. FOSTER. What is to be the cost of the whole work?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. It is quite impossible to give exact amounts as to the cost of the work, for the work consists mainly in removing large boulders. Before we do any more work, I must have a complete survey made.

Mr. FOSTER. From what vote has the hon. gentleman paid for the work that is being done now?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. Out of the vote of last year. I do not remember what the amount of the vote was.

Mr. FOSTER. It is misleading that you have not that in the parallel column.

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. I find that it was charged to capital.

Mr. FOSTER. It was in the Estimates, but do I understand it was not in the Supply Bill?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. I remember quite well that we changed the item from income to capital. I have the Supply Bill here, and I will send it across to the hon. gentleman (Mr. Foster).

Mr. FOSTER. I see that is so. Then, the instructions of the House were not carried out.

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. That is not my fault.

Mr. FOSTER. No, that is not your fault.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. I would like to ask the Minister's reason for doing this by days' labour and not by contract.

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. It is almost impossible to do such work under tender. There are boulders here and boulders there. It is a work which has to be done with great care, and that is the reason why I sent one of the officers of my own department. I might have found a good man there, but I thought it better to send one of the officers who are under our immediate supervision.

Mr. BENNETT. I would like to ask, with reference to the work at Owen Sound harbour, for which \$35,000 is asked, is that under contract, and if so, who are the contractors?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. The dredging at Owen Sound is done by a dredge which we engage so much an hour—\$8 per hour, which is the usual price that we pay for the dredges that we have to secure from outside parties.

Mr. BENNETT. The hon. Minister has not answered the other part of the question. Perhaps I might ask him further: Is this dredge the property of Mr. John A. Barron and of Dr. Horsey, son-in-law of the hon. member for West Huron (Mr. Macdonald)?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. I understand that the dredge is the property of a company.

Mr. BENNETT. Is not the hon. Minister aware that Contractor John A. Barron and Contractor Horsey, who, I may say, is the defeated candidate in North Grey, are the owners of the dredge that has this contract at this princely rate of pay? Were tenders called for in this case?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS. We never ask for tenders in such cases, and if the hon. gentleman (Mr. Bennett) looks at the record of past transactions, he will find that I am paying the same rate as has always been paid. My officers informed me that there was only one name known in connection with the company, that of