

Supply—Public Works

Mr. Churchill: No; it was interior painting at Carbonear, Newfoundland; interior painting at St. Anthony, Newfoundland; improved lighting at Bishop's Falls; a lock-box lobby and terrazzo work at Stephenville; toilet facilities at Walkerville; interior painting at St. Lawrence. That is the type of work that is being done during the winter season.

In Nova Scotia, interior painting at the Ralston building at Halifax, \$8,000; interior painting at the federal building at Yarmouth, \$8,000, and changes to accommodation on the eighth floor of the Ralston building in Halifax, \$1,600. I can go on. Does the hon. member wish further items?

Mr. Bourget: No, I was just asking the minister about the projects over \$25,000.

Mr. Churchill: The only one that I can find is exactly \$25,000. That is at Blackpool, in the province of Quebec, and it is for masonry repairs.

Mr. Pickersgill: Is that a dance hall?

Mr. Herridge: Mr. Chairman, as a socialist and a member of a party that appreciates Canadian history and tradition and does not support the materialist conception of life, believing that men live by other than bread alone, we support the preservation of the west block and the Gothic beauty and symmetry on parliament hill.

Mr. Pickersgill: So do I, but I like to see it being done economically.

Mr. Robichaud: Mr. Chairman, could the minister tell us whether those projects are being done by daily work or by tender; and if by tender, how are the tenders being called?

Mr. Churchill: By contract; by public tender.

Mr. Peters: Mr. Chairman, I would like some information from the minister on this matter of the office of Sir John A. Macdonald. This matter has been referred to by the hon. member for Bonavista-Twillingate, who said this was not at any time Sir John A. Macdonald's office. I believe it would not be to our advantage to maintain as a symbol something that was not true. Have any records been looked into in connection with this matter? Has the government ascertained whether this was in fact Sir John A. Macdonald's office; and if it was not, what was the reason for doing this?

Mr. Churchill: Mr. Chairman, I will refer the hon. member's question to the Minister of Public Works, who has perhaps delved into this topic. If he has not the answer, we know where to find it.

Mr. Pickersgill: Tell him to be sure to get the right Tilley.

Mr. Peters: I am not really happy about what the hon. member for Bonavista-Twillingate has said in regard to this matter. If what he said is right, I do not think we should necessarily go to his files to ascertain the true circumstances; I am sure there are records kept that would prove whether or not this is right. We are quite happy to accept the minister's word that he will look into this matter and report.

Mr. Robichaud: Mr. Chairman, in reply to my question of a few minutes ago the minister said all those projects were being done by tender. Are we to understand that notwithstanding the amount of the project, whether it was \$1,600, \$8,000 or \$25,000, public tenders were called for every one?

Mr. Churchill: Yes, I am informed that tenders were called for the accelerated work which is outlined here.

Mr. Bourget: For all the projects, even those of \$1,000 or \$2,000?

Mr. Churchill: Yes, I am told that tenders were invited on all these projects, even the small ones.

Mr. Bourget: I am asking whether public tenders were asked for on all those projects.

Mr. Churchill: I am informed that tenders were invited from known contractors in the area for these very small amounts—

Mr. Bourget: Up to what amounts?

Mr. Churchill:—and with regard to the very large amounts, of course, public tenders are called by advertisement.

Item agreed to.

Development engineering services—

659. Roads and bridges—maintenance and operation—further amount required, \$150,000.

Mr. Bourget: In connection with vote 659, Mr. Chairman, could the minister tell us what bridges were repaired under that item, or what roads were constructed.

Mr. Churchill: The Chaudiere bridge is the one that is referred to.

Mr. Bell (Carleton): Of great advantage to Ottawa.

Mr. Bourget: Is the whole item of \$150,000 for Chaudiere bridge repairs?

Mr. Churchill: That is right.