

idea as to the amount of money spent under the different methods? We are going to spend only \$60,000 under this vote, and I should like to know what has been advanced by the Metals Reserve Corporation and from other sources.

Mr. HOWE: Companies like Flin Flon, Consolidated Smelting and International Nickel carry on private operations and they sell their products at world prices. At one time there was an urgent demand for zinc and copper, and the result was that certain low grade zinc and copper deposits were opened up. These required a much higher price than was paid for the output of our commercial mines. Canada had a surplus of those metals and there was no need of our paying a higher price, but the Metals Reserve Corporation of the United States did have a higher price for zinc and copper. That is, they had a commercial price and they had another price almost twice as high for marginal properties. They placed a few contracts in Canada for high-priced zinc and copper.

Mr. GREEN: Were they placed through the metals controller?

Mr. HOWE: Yes; they asked us to act as their agents. Those high-priced contracts were cancelled.

Mr. GREEN: Was tungsten in the same category?

Mr. HOWE: We developed tungsten on our own, not for the Metals Reserve. Zinc came into easy supply and the high cost contracts were cancelled recently. Certain high-priced copper contracts are being continued. There are other ways of developing. We have a corporation known as Wartime Metals Limited. It has advanced a certain amount to a tungsten mine in British Columbia, to a chrome mine in the eastern townships in Quebec and to certain other mines. These properties have been financed as mining operations. All these strategic metals have come into excess supply since we have had amazingly favourable results in our search for rare metals. They were found in ample supply, and some of the properties opened up by Wartime Metals have been closed because the product is no longer required. One small property got into production through the vote we are now discussing. Another was developed by Wartime Metals Limited, and then there were the high-cost operations, a few of which were financed by the Metals Reserve Corporation.

Item agreed to.

[Mr. Green.]

Assistance to provincial governments in construction of transportation facilities into strategic mineral, including oil, properties, \$75,000.

Mr. GREEN: Will the minister explain how much of this vote was spent last year and why it has been reduced from \$200,000?

Mr. CRERAR: The vote last year was \$200,000, of which \$128,300 was expended. According to the notes I have here, \$73,818 was expended in connection with the development of the Kam-Kotia copper mine west of Timmins.

Mr. GREEN: About half the vote.

Mr. CRERAR: A little more than half.

Mr. GREEN: Was that spent on a road?

Mr. CRERAR: Yes. This was a copper property being developed in that area. It was a three-way split. The Hollinger mine, which was developing the Kam-Kotia property, put up one-third; the provincial government put up one-third and the federal government one-third. Then assistance was granted in Quebec for the construction of a road into a zinc property on Calumet island, and for a road into the Sterret property near Richmond. An amount of \$1,503.57 was spent in connection with a mica mine in Mattewan township, Ontario; in Quebec, for road from Pressiac village to Indian molybdenite mine, \$2,427; for the Calumet zinc mine road, \$11,759; for the Sterret chromium mine road, \$1,301, and for the Cadillac-St. Maurice road, \$30,974.

Mr. GREEN: Those are in Quebec?

Mr. CRERAR: Yes; those are in Quebec. Then, in British Columbia there is the Twin J mine road, at \$2,991; and the Bralorne mercury mine road, \$3,523. That is for a mercury mine that the Bralorne people control.

Mr. GREEN: On what basis are those amounts spent?

Mr. CRERAR: In practically all cases I am advised the mine made a contribution of one-third, the province a third and the federal government a third. There may be a few instances where the expense was shared between the provincial and federal governments.

Mr. GREEN: On whose recommendations are expenditures made? Is it the recommendation of the metals controller?

Mr. CRERAR: They are made on the recommendation of the metals controller.

Mr. GREEN: How is the money to be spent this year?