

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): No. This is based on repeated cruises of the berth and values placed upon them.

Mr. HOEY: Does the minister not think New Westminster had some responsibility?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): I have no doubt it could be established by litigation, but that is not a very good method of finding out what the liability might be. We have our timber there. I am bound to say that the most recent estimate I have in regard to the timber I have spoken of so often over this height of land accessible for logging when the railway is built in is that it will more than half pay the money we are paying now. Perhaps that is a sanguine statement to make, but I think it will.

Item agreed to.

To provide for the payment to John R. Vicars from July 1, 1924, of an annuity at the rate of \$1,020.60 per annum, being the amount which had been recommended by the Civil Service Commission under the provisions of the Public Service Retirement Act, \$1,786.05.

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): This is the case of John R. Vicars, who was an engineer in our department, and who accepted retirement upon being notified that he would be entitled to a certain annuity. This is based on the length of his service.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: Carried.

Item agreed to.

For the enlargement of the western outlet of lake of the Woods and the provision of suitable control works therein in conformity with the recommendation of the International Joint Commission (including re-vote of \$200,000), \$800,000.

Mr. MEIGHEN: What is this?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): This is the cost of the enlargement of the outlet at the mouth of the lake of the Woods at the Norman dam.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Backus owns that dam.

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): Yes.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Why do we pay him for this?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): This is our share of the cost. This is really the government's part of the work that is being constructed, and in order to establish the value of this work I had tenders called for.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Who will own it after it is built?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): We are not contributing anything to the Norman dam

proper, except to the sluice ways. The dam is owned by E. W. Backus.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Is that not an improvement to it?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): Yes. This is to blast out a channel under the Canadian Pacific Railway bridge and widen it to give an outlet for the flowage, provided for in the decision of the commission with respect to the control of the lake of the Woods, and while that is being done repairs are being made to the Norman dam as well.

Item agreed to.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Has the minister any estimates in the Interior department affecting northern Quebec under which would come provision for the Eskimos and Indians east of the Hudson bay in the territory under the charge of Rev. Mr. Walton?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): Yes, I am going to call one.

For the relief of distress and medical attendance among the Indians of the Yukon Territory (Governor General's warrant of February 3, 1925), \$8,000.

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): This is to assist in relieving the distress among the Indians of the Yukon Territory. Owing to an epidemic among them, we were forced to spend more money than we had allocated for that purpose, and I am asking for a further grant.

Mr. MEIGHEN: Has the minister been giving special attention to the tragic condition of these Eskimos east of Hudson bay? I refer to those who lost their means of support by the great fire of thirty or forty years ago, which drove the reindeer completely out of the territory. Will the minister tell me what the government is doing to take care of them, to put them on a self-sustaining basis, and avoid the decimation of their numbers which is going on at an appalling rate?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): The reverend gentleman called to see me and gave me a statement as to the condition among the natives on the east coast of Hudson bay. The reindeer or cariboo which formerly subsisted there appear to have drifted down to the wooded area in the interior. For some reason the natives will not follow them. They prefer to live along the coast and take their chances of obtaining a livelihood from fishing and trapping, and I believe a very serious disaster happened up there a few years ago at one of the Eskimo camps. I have been discussing the matter with the Hudson's Bay Company officials. Some years ago we