

Supply—Public Works

department not have written, "We are considering the request for a retaining wall?" I beg your pardon. The wording of the letter, as found on page 3218 of *Hansard*, is as follows:

Approval of this application is being delayed pending full investigation and report of complaints received against approval of the sea wall.

Millgate has submitted plans for a retaining wall consisting of eight by eight piles. What is interesting is that fill in the lake now is at the 470 foot mark. According to the letters of the Department of Public Works, the application to the Department of Public Works for the retaining wall shows in the plans that this will run out into the lake for 540 feet, not only containing the fill but also extending the area to 540 feet, with no restrictive action taken by the Department of Public Works.

When I brought this up first I was told to speak on the estimates. When I tried to speak on this question on the main estimates for the Department of Public Works for this year, I was jockeyed out of it while having supper. I do not want to make any comments, but I will not be jockeyed out the second time, I can tell you.

Then I was told, "Bring this matter up on the main estimates for 1966-67". I asked the Minister of Public Works when his 1966-67 estimates would be up and he informed me that the opposition chose the departments which would be referred to committees for study. I must say this: I am a dumb bunny from Toronto; I am not very smart; I am not a lawyer, but I know something. I know that it is not the opposition which chooses the estimates of the departments to be taken up in committee discussion. That is why I am speaking on the 1965-66 supplementary estimates and I can tell you, Mr. Chairman, that I am looking for some satisfaction in this matter. I am looking for some satisfaction to find out who is persuading the federal government to turn two blind eyes on this matter. Land worth \$150,000 an acre is being built in Lake Ontario, a public waterway which comes under the Navigable Waters Protection Act and even under the International Boundaries Treaty of 1909—

The Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Cowan: I want action. I do not want more promises.

The Chairman: Order, please. I must advise the hon. member that the time allotted to him has expired. Shall the item carry?

[Mr. Cowan.]

Mr. Peters: Mr. Chairman, I believe we had an agreement with the minister to stand item 1 temporarily.

Mr. Benson: That was agreed, Mr. Chairman. It was agreed that we stand item 1 of the Department of Public Works so that the minister might comment on what the hon. member has said. I have been in touch with the minister to this end.

The Chairman: Order. Is it agreed that item 1e stand?

Some hon. Members: Stand.

Item stands.

1967 World Exhibition—

57e. Toward federal government's share of the cost of construction of an ice control structure, \$800,000.

Mr. Howard: Mr. Chairman, this is an item seeking approval to spend \$800,000 toward the federal government's share of the cost of construction of an ice control structure at Expo '67. Earlier, when the estimates of the Department of Trade and Commerce were before the house, we were told it was estimated that the government of Canada or the public treasury of Canada would need to provide something in the neighbourhood of \$60 million to balance the books of Expo '67 after it had wound up its affairs.

Here we have another \$800,000 toward the cost of constructing an ice control structure which I assume arises out of the building of a superfluous island. I wonder whether the minister can tell me what is the total cost of the ice control structure, what is Canada's share, and whether the ice control structure was occasioned partly by the building of the additional island?

Mr. Benson: Mr. Chairman, in order to counteract the effect of the construction of the world fair site in the St. Lawrence River at Montreal it was necessary to construct an ice dam located upstream from the Champlain bridge in the Laprairie basin. The ice dam is required to protect efficiently the existing and proposed installations at the world fair site, to assist in the prevention of ice fields in the Verdun and Lachine areas, and to assist to maintain the proper water level in Montreal harbour.

The estimated cost is \$16,308,000 of which expenditure \$6,258,000 was previously approved in 1964-65. Provided in the main estimates of 1965-66 was \$6,750,000. Montreal's share is \$1,318,000. The balance required