

Mr. BERGERON. How many men were employed before?

Mr. GRAHAM. We paid \$20,000 a year for gas to start with.

Mr. LANCASTER. No, the gas was supplied at \$10,000 a year for the whole canal without any expenditure on capital account.

Mr. BERGERON. Now that you are running the canal by electricity, you do not want so many men. How many are employed now and how many were employed before?

Mr. GRAHAM. Practically the same number of men—two men at a lock. It is impossible to get along with any less. It may not be any great saving, but it is a great advantage to the shipping.

Mr. BERGERON. The first time the question of using electricity came up before parliament, one of the arguments in its favour was that it would require many less men. On the Welland canal you used to have eight men per lock.

Mr. GRAHAM. No, two day men and two at night.

Mr. BERGERON. Besides the lockmaster.

Mr. GRAHAM. That includes the lockmaster.

Mr. BERGERON. If these three men and the lockmaster were doing the work formerly and now it is done by electricity, what are these men doing?

Mr. GRAHAM. We cannot very well run a lock without a man on each side, even if they do not open them by manual labour. You could not do without two men in the day and two at night.

Mr. J. D. REID. How many locks are there on the Welland?

Mr. GRAHAM. Twenty-six locks and a guard gate.

Mr. J. D. REID. How many on the Cornwall canal?

Mr. GRAHAM. Six or seven.

Mr. J. D. REID. Do I understand that after this plant is completed it will cost \$15,000 per annum to operate and maintain it?

Mr. GRAHAM. That would include the cost of the electric power as well.

Mr. J. D. REID. There would not be any other expenditure necessary to supply the light and maintain this plant and furnish the power?

Mr. GRAHAM. That would only include the men directly connected with the electric working. It does not include the lockmen.

Mr. J. D. REID. Will that include everyone connected with the electric plant, and

will the government have to pay in addition the same number of men as are now on the plant?

Mr. GRAHAM. Practically the same.

Mr. J. D. REID. The government will be paying \$15,000 per year extra over and above what they are doing now. In addition there will be the annual outlay of interest on this \$450,000 permanently. Even at 3 per cent that would be another \$13,500 per annum. So that we will be paying on the Welland canal an addition annual expenditure of \$28,500. How does that compare with the Cornwall canal? There are only six or seven locks on the Cornwall canal and the government have guaranteed for 89 years to pay about \$50,000 for light and power on that canal. Judging by the Welland, there must be something wrong on the Cornwall canal. If the Welland canal cost only \$30,000 a year more than they have been paying, why does not the minister try to save something for the people on the Cornwall canal? With only six or seven locks it should not cost more than \$10,000 or \$12,000.

Mr. GRAHAM. I understand that the lighting on the Cornwall canal has been under contract for years.

Mr. J. D. REID. A contract for eighty-nine years.

Mr. GRAHAM. Well, it is under contract. That is the reason why I cannot make the same arrangement for the Cornwall canal as for the Welland canal. The hon. gentleman says that we pay \$15,000 for the Cornwall canal. But this was \$10,000 for gas for lighting, and that did not handle the locks.

Mr. J. D. REID. But the minister is keeping the same number of men, and he spends this \$15,000 more, besides \$13,000 or \$14,000 of interest, making a total of \$28,000 or \$30,000. Put against that the \$10,000 for gas, and it will still be seen that the government is spending \$18,000 per annum for all time to come beyond the old expenditure on the Welland canal.

Mr. J. T. SCHELL. I understand the hon. gentleman (Mr. J. D. Reid) to say that we are paying on the Cornwall canal over \$50,000 a year. Was not that amount a little more than 50 per cent beyond the truth?

Mr. J. D. REID. That is a fair question. I have here the Auditor General's Report for the nine months ending March 31, 1907. If the hon. gentleman will turn to page W-83 of that report, he will see payments there—account of the Cornwall canal staff: St. Lawrence Power Company of \$15,493.20 for electric light, being at the rate of 30 cents a light per night; also 400 horsepower at \$63 per annum, \$18,847.92, or a total of \$34,541.12. Will the hon. gentleman dispute that statement? Well, if this is the