

Mr. STEVENS: Is it going on now? One-third of the vote has already been passed.

Mr. KING (Kootenay): Yes.

Mr. DOUCET: Yes, the work is proceeding, but I do not think it is very far advanced as yet. Would the minister explain why the contract was not awarded before November when the vote was put through in the second or third week of June of last year? Was the contract awarded in November because of a certain happening in that locality?

Mr. KING (Kootenay): Each district engineer prepares his plans as the work is required, and these are sent forward. In the case of new work, plans and specifications are prepared and tenders called for. I imagine this work was like many others. It arrived at the stage when tenders were called for in August, September, October or November, depending, of course, upon when the plans were ready.

Mr. MEIGHEN: But in view of the bye-election November would be a very good time to have the tenders received. I must confess that more progress was made after their reception than was made in the case of the Halifax elevator.

Item agreed to.

Dipper Harbour—Breakwater repairs, \$4,000.

Mr. STEVENS: What is this for?

Mr. KING (Kootenay): This is to reconstruct the outer face of the breakwater, approximately 65 feet long and 8 to 14 feet high.

Mr. STEVENS: What has been spent on this up to date, and what is the estimate for completion?

Mr. KING (Kootenay): This is the estimate for the work under construction now. The expenditure up to date amounts to \$106,545.

Mr. STEVENS: The minister qualifies his statement, I notice, with the words "up to date". We may reasonably infer that in future there may be some very, very large expenditures contemplated. I noticed in connection with the famous Belle river item, the minister persisted in using the qualifying words "at present", and I think he was very wise in doing so, because if later on further demands are made, justifying our criticism, he will then be able to say "I pointed out this vote was only for the present". I suppose we can say the same about this vote. There has

been expended already \$106,000, and there is a vote of \$4,000 this year. What we would like to know in connection with this and other works is what the ultimate expenditure will be. Will the minister be good enough to tell us that?

Mr. KING (Kootenay): Dipper Harbour is a very old settlement, and apparently there has been a harbour work at that point for many years. The expenditure for construction amounts to about \$80,000, and for dredging \$26,000. That is the total expenditure up to the present.

Mr. STEVENS: Is there much traffic there?

Mr. KING (Kootenay): It is a fishing harbour, and harbour of refuge on the bay of Fundy, 22 miles west of St. John and 3 miles east of Point Lepreaux. The population engaged in fishing is 140. In addition, it serves the surrounding territory.

Mr. STEVENS: Only 140 people?

Mr. KING (Kootenay): That is the number of fishermen at that point, but Dipper Harbour serves a larger community than that.

Mr. STEVENS: We have spent \$106,000 at a point where there are only 140 people.

Mr. KING (Kootenay): The work has been going on for a number of years

Item agreed to.

Gage town—Wharf repairs, \$1,000.

Mr. STEVENS: What is this for?

Mr. KING (Kootenay): This is for repairs.

Item agreed to.

Harbours and rivers generally—Repairs and improvements, \$45,000.

Mr. DOUCET: Would the minister tell us if there has been any work done at Kouchibouguac, in Kent county?

Mr. KING (Kootenay): I have no record of any expenditure there last year. There was nothing in the general vote evidently.

Mr. DOUCET: While I have not the supplementaries here for last year, I believe there was a vote in the supplementaries, but no expenditure has been made, and I was wondering why the vote had been dropped.

Mr. KING (Kootenay): I do not think there was any vote last year.

Mr. DOUCET: Not in the supplementaries?

Mr. KING (Kootenay): I think not. I have no record of it here.