

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): The appropriation for British Columbia was \$128,300, and the expenditure was \$112,879. The balance falls in, and I can give the hon. gentleman the particulars if he wishes them. For Vancouver public buildings, improvements and repairs, we voted \$17,000 and only spent \$14,995. For accommodation for the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve we voted \$11,500 and spent \$11,410, and the work is completed. For a public building in Trail \$66,000 was appropriated and \$56,648.46 was spent, and the building is completed. The balance falls in. For a public building at Rossland \$5,000 was appropriated, \$4,625.36 was spent and the building is completed. For a public building in Kimberley, \$28,800 was appropriated; \$25,195.28 was required for the construction of the building, and the balance falls in.

Mr. HANBURY: I should like as full information as I can get from the minister with regard to that appropriation for the R.C.N.V.R. accommodation.

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): Of last year?

Mr. HANBURY: Yes.

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): I am sorry I have not the particulars of last year's appropriations with me.

Mr. HANBURY: I understand that appropriation was made for the purpose of acquiring the old buildings of the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club.

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): That is correct.

Mr. HANBURY: That item went through last year. I understand a cheque has been issued so that it will come out of last year's estimates, but as yet the cheque has not been sent out. The point I wish to make is this: The government rented that property from the yacht club and paid a rental of \$1,800 a year. They had the opportunity of purchasing the property at \$10,000, I think, and they considered that expenditure justified. However, it is now over a year since the appropriation was made and I understand that the yacht club have received neither cheque nor rental in the meantime. I think they are at least entitled to receive rental, and failing that I think they should receive interest for the time the payment has been held up.

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): I assure my hon. friend that this matter will be brought to the

attention of departmental officials. The matter will be checked up, and if there are any errors they will be corrected.

Mr. HANBURY: Just for the information of the minister I might say that I understand the papers in that connection are in the possession of the Department of Justice now and are being held up there because the department is anxious to secure a right of way to this property from the city of Vancouver. However, the sale of the property did not contemplate that the club would be required to give this right of way, which is in the control of the city of Vancouver. That is the cause of the delay, and I do not think there is any justification for withholding that payment.

Mr. SPENCER: Could the minister give us some information with regard to this interest of five per cent on the mortgage of \$400,000?

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): It was the Winch building, which was purchased by the former government subject to a mortgage, and we are paying the interest on the mortgage.

Item agreed to.

Public buildings generally—experimental farms—replacements, repairs, improvements, etc., \$50,000.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Having regard to the fact that the announced policy of this government is that it will take a strong forward movement on behalf of agriculture, this cut from \$100,000 to \$50,000 is rather an unhappy exemplification of that strong attitude. Especially is that so when I find the Prime Minister reported in the Telegraph-Journal of St. John, under date of July 3, as saying that he would regard it as a great responsibility, if elected, to see that the collective weight and power of the Dominion is placed behind agriculture. I think this is rather an unfortunate illustration of that power, to cut down this item from \$100,000 to \$50,000. I suppose this will include new buildings as well?

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): No, this is just for ordinary repairs.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: It is the regular vote, but the amount is irregularly small. It covers some twenty-five farms, including the tobacco farms, and I feel sure that the Minister of Agriculture, who is present, could very well use that other \$50,000 to keep those farms in good order during the coming year.