

Easter I looked into this matter further and found that so far as they were aware in Bathurst no order in council had been passed authorizing payment of the \$7,500, but the letter remains there stating that as soon as an order in council can be passed the account will be paid. That work was completed in the first week of December; the account was sent to the provincial authorities at Fredericton, who forwarded it to Ottawa, and the acknowledgment of its receipt is on file. But no payment has been made, so in connection with the county of Gloucester the statement made by the Prime Minister is not exactly correct.

Mr. BENNETT: I did not say it was true in every instance.

Mr. VENIOT: You said it was true in most instances.

Mr. BENNETT: That is not what I said, either.

Mr. VENIOT: The same thing applies to the entire province of New Brunswick. A question was asked in the house as to how much was still due the province of New Brunswick on work accomplished in connection with projects which had been approved, and I think the answer was \$171,000. That amount was due long before March 1. Those accounts were not paid, though they could have been paid before the bill lapsed.

Then the Prime Minister referred to the statement I made in reference to the \$58,000 unexpended by the Department of Public Works in connection with the Shippigan island wharf, and he said that I wished to make political capital of it. I should like to direct his attention to the words I actually used:

I do not wish to imply that the approval of this work was made public for any effect it might have had in the by-election, but the fact is that this knowledge that it had been approved came up at the time.

I distinctly stated that I did not wish to leave the impression that politics was involved, and I said that because the matter came under the direction of the federal Department of Public Works and I felt, in view of the splendid treatment accorded me by the Minister of Public Works, that he would not allow Conservatives in the county of Gloucester to play politics in this regard.

Leaving aside the political point, the reason given as to why the work was not proceeded with was that the estimate was \$30,000, the amount approved for the project was \$15,000, and the work could not be completed before March 1, when chapter 58 lapsed. Let me ask the Prime Minister, as well as the Minister

[Mr. Veniot.]

of Public Works, if that is so, why the work at Negro Point was proceeded with, in the province of New Brunswick. The estimate was \$22,000; only \$12,772 was spent, and the work is not completed. I direct attention to Burnt Church in Northumberland county; \$20,000 was the estimate, \$11,013 was spent to February 29, and the work has not been completed. Then there is North Sydney, where the estimate was \$22,000, where \$16,109 was spent, and where the work has not been completed. There is the immigration hospital in Quebec; the estimate was \$12,000, the work has not been completed and \$7,174 was expended. There is Haileybury, in Ontario, where the estimate was \$67,000, where only \$17,809 was spent to February 29, and where the work is not one-fourth completed. There is the dredging at Port Hope; \$35,000 was the estimate, the work is not completed and only \$23,968 has been spent. Take the national research building in Ottawa; the estimate was \$40,000, of which only \$12,262 has been spent, and I have reason to believe that the work is not one-half or one-quarter finished. Take Point Tupper wharf; \$24,000 was the estimate, \$16,787 was expended and the work is not completed. If the government say that these works are completed, what must we say about the estimates of the cost? If, on the other hand, matters can be carried on in that way in Ontario, Quebec and Nova Scotia, why could not the work to which I referred be begun last fall? After referring to these other items the excuse that the estimate was \$30,000 and the work could not be completed before March 1 does not hold water, and I think an injustice has been done the county of Gloucester. When I heard the right hon. the Prime Minister give that reason I thought to myself that it was different from or perhaps in addition to, the reason given by the Minister of Public Works.

The Prime Minister must have thought that the reason given by the Minister of Public Works was not sufficient, but when I examined the report of the dominion director of unemployment relief I found that my section of New Brunswick certainly had not been treated in a just and proper way. I am almost driven to believe that this work was stopped for other reasons which have not been given us.

Mr. LAPOINTE: Shady reasons.

Mr. VENIOT: No, I would not use that expression; I would be told I was using unparliamentary language. There is enough shadiness in the atmosphere outside without bringing any into the house. I was surprised to hear the Minister of Labour heatedly make