

Mr. ROGERS: I would judge my hon. friend has in mind relief work being done within a municipality in the province of British Columbia?

Mr. BARBER: Yes, with contributions from the provincial and federal governments.

Mr. ROGERS: Apart from the city of Vancouver, where some work was done on the parks under the last agreement, to my knowledge there is no federal contribution to any municipal work in British Columbia. That is, there is no direct contribution under the joint works program. It is conceivable that some municipalities are requiring relief recipients to work out their relief, and from that point of view it might be considered that the dominion is contributing indirectly. So far as wages are concerned, any control would be limited to works being done under the terms of our joint works agreements with the provinces. These agreements contain a clause to the effect that the wages paid shall be fair wages, and the interpretation of "fair wages" is the prevailing rate in the locality where the work is being done.

Mr. ESLING: Have the fifteen specific projects been completed to which the federal government contributed \$750,000 last year, or will they be continued under agreements for the present year? How much of the \$750,000 allocated to these fifteen projects was expended last year?

Mr. ROGERS: Answering the several questions in order, first, I may say to my hon. friend that where works which were definitely set out in the schedule to the agreement with a province are not completed during the period of the agreement, it has been the practice to provide a revote to cover the continuation of the actual projects if the province requests that this be done. In answer to the second question, I have here a statement of the actual expenditures made by the dominion under the joint agreement with the province of British Columbia up to March 31, 1937. The total is \$520,275.57. In addition there are accounts, now being examined, to an amount of \$75,000. This makes a total of accounts payable to the amount of \$595,275.57.

Mr. CHURCH: Will consideration be given, when the minister makes the agreement with the province of Ontario, to the program laid before the government by the mayor and board of control of Toronto for the expenditure of \$4,000,000?

Mr. ROGERS: I assure my hon. friend that consideration will be given to certain

items of that program. As he is aware, some of them do not relate directly to the Department of Labour. There was, for example, as I recall, a request that there should be a contribution to an airport in Toronto, and that would be dealt with by the Department of Transport.

Mr. SPENCE: That is dealt with in another vote, the item of \$400,000.

Mr. ROGERS: I recall that deputation from Toronto expressed interest in the improvement of parks and recreational facilities. I have already advised hon. members that it seemed to me there was much to be said in support of the allocation of a certain sum to our larger cities for the purpose of improving parks and recreational facilities. That will be done, however, through the provincial governments. I do not contemplate a break in the established practice of dealing with these matters through the provincial governments.

Mr. SPENCE: The minister should earmark some of it, anyhow.

Mr. CHURCH: May I ask whether or not in these proposed agreements the matter will be put on the basis of fifty per cent contribution by the province and fifty per cent contribution by the federal government? I notice that some municipalities are asked to put up one-third, in conjunction with provincial and federal authorities, which seems to be a fair principle. So far the city of Toronto has got nothing out of these agreements of last year, not a five cent piece, and I hope that it will now receive consideration.

Mr. ROGERS: I do not think it possible to indicate at this time any precise basis of allocation of funds of the dominion government to works done within a municipality. That would have to be a matter of negotiation with the provincial government concerned. For example my hon. friend referred to the agreement of the past year with the province of Quebec. It is true that certain municipal works were undertaken under the terms of that agreement. At the same time there was no provision in that agreement for contributions by the municipalities concerned. That is, the Quebec government assumed fifty per cent of the cost of the works included in that agreement.

Mr. BENNETT: And the municipalities paid nothing?

Mr. ROGERS: Correct.

Mr. ESLING: In view of the minister's reply, may I ask him if any new agreements will be entered into so far as British Columbia is concerned for the current year, and