

Freeport (North East cove) — breakwater, \$9,500.  
 Gabarus—dredging, \$10,000.  
 Iona—wharf extension, \$13,500.  
 Liverpool—dredging, \$20,000.  
 Moose Harbour—improvements, \$3,000.  
 Pictou Landing — wharf improvements, \$20,100.  
 Port Hood — closing northern entrance, \$25,000.  
 Seal Island—breakwater, \$12,300.  
 Sydney—wharf extension and warehouse, \$75,000.  
 Yarmouth harbour — dredging, \$143,000.

Mr. MacNICOL: There are three items in this vote about which I should like to ask.

Mr. CAMERON (Cape Breton): Before the item carries I should like to ask the minister a question concerning projects intended especially for relief. As I understood from the discussion this afternoon, some of these projects are not specifically for relief purposes. On what basis are those intended for relief selected by the department? I have in mind the item of labour, for instance.

Mr. CARDIN: It is very difficult to draw the line, and to answer the hon. member's question directly. In dealing with estimates for the Department of Public Works we have kept in our mind the desirability of undertaking certain works which might relieve unemployment in a locality. It is a matter of judgment as to whether one project would provide more work than another, and would relieve unemployment in a locality to a greater extent.

These estimates are not what could really be called relief estimates. The relief assistance given by the government is given by the Department of Labour. In each case we decide more generously than is the custom to undertake a work with a view to providing employment in a locality and to a certain extent relieve unemployment, although we execute a work which one day or another would have to be undertaken by the government. The main object of these estimates is not to relieve unemployment but to undertake now, in view of the large amount of unemployment, certain works that might otherwise be postponed. By making these expenditures now, instead of next year or the year after, we are not only doing work that is necessary but helping to relieve the difficult unemployment situation by providing work in different localities where it is needed. To draw the line between what is strictly relief work and what is not would be very difficult, and we do not start from that

basis because relief, of course, is primarily a matter for the Labour department. We are advancing the program of the Public Works department a little bit in order to relieve unemployment. I do not know whether with my incomplete knowledge of English I have made myself clear to my hon. friend.

Mr. CAMERON (Cape Breton): The minister has made it perfectly clear so far as I am concerned, and I am going to take that one statement of his, that on occasions public works are advanced a little bit where it would serve the double purpose of providing a useful public work and helping to relieve unemployment. Taking that as a basis, with which I thoroughly agree, I desire to direct the minister's attention to a small undertaking which I sought to have carried out in the harbour of North Sydney. This work was intended as a shelter for fishermen at that port. Some work was undertaken in that regard by the former government, and a considerable amount of dredging was done last fall at a place popularly known as Ballast Ground at North Sydney. The object of that work was to provide a shelter for fishermen engaged in what is commonly called inshore fishing. Ballast Ground itself formed a fairly good shelter for the boats, but it was felt that it was not sufficient, and the late government sent a dredge down there last fall and opened up a small shelter for the boats inside Ballast Ground. But the work stopped there, with the result that the shelter which the boats had is now taken away from them, and the shelter intended to be prepared is not completed. Since last December I have pressed this on the officers of the department both as a necessary public work and as a matter of relief, and in view of the groundwork laid by the minister here this evening, that the rule of the department is to "advance" a public work where it would furnish relief, I cannot understand why this work is postponed. I say that particularly because there is not a single bit of accommodation for these fishermen at North Sydney. The department has placed in the estimates a vote of \$75,000 for an extension to a wharf five miles up the harbour at Sydney, where there is some accommodation, not sufficient, I admit, but still some accommodation, and I have been unable, speaking on behalf of the fishermen of North Sydney, to obtain any accommodation for them at all. There is some dredging required to complete the work, and I am informed that it has been postponed until late in the fall as the only dredge available has been sent to another portion of the riding to carry on work there.