

lished in the maritime provinces. For one thing, we were close to the sea and we had the people to work in those factories. It would have saved this country many millions of dollars in the cost of transportation if factories had been established down near the seaboard. And the great bottleneck in transportation on our railways would have been avoided. But as the hon. member for Queens-Lunenburg (Mr. Winters) pointed out the other day, this was not done; and as far as manufacturing was concerned, our situation during the war was worse instead of better. Figures tabled in the house show that \$790 million were spent by the government out of the taxpayers' money in the construction of new factories in Canada during the war. Of that \$790 million, New Brunswick got \$5,004,000, or .63 per cent, a little better than one-half of one per cent. Nova Scotia fared a little better; they got 2.3 per cent. But less than three per cent of the total of \$790 million which Ottawa poured in the development of new industrial capacity in Canada was invested in the Atlantic provinces. We have ten per cent of the country's population, and if we had received one-tenth of the total amount spent, we should have received \$79 million. Instead of that we received \$23,012,000, or \$55,988,000 less than what we consider to be our just share.

Then we also consider some other statistics. I do not wish to repeat what the hon. member for Queens-Lunenburg said the other day. The aggregate amount of all the contracts awarded by the Department of Munitions and Supply was \$11,997,200,000. Of this, \$10,660,300,000 or all but \$1,366,900,000, went to Ontario and Quebec. On the basis of population again, \$1,199,720,000, or ten per cent, should have been spent in our three provinces. Instead of that, the expenditure in those provinces was \$380 million, or about three per cent. The difference between what we should have had on a straight population basis and what we got works out to \$819 million. I think that the house and the country should not forget that we shouldered our full share of that expenditure of \$11,997,200,000.

You may ask me, Mr. Speaker, why it is that I mention these figures. The reason is obvious, I think; it is to show that we have been discriminated against, and to indicate the extent to which this discrimination has gone. We are asking for certain improvements. Our papers today are asking for the building of the Chignecto canal, something which would cost only a tithe of the amount which we were denied during the war. We are asking for the building of a causeway across the strait of Canso, something else which I

[Mr. Brooks.]

believe we are entitled to when you consider the great contribution which we have made to the dominion. We are asking for a few million dollars in order to save hundreds of thousands of acres of the finest agricultural land there is in our province. Not only do we think we are not asking for too much, we believe we are not asking for nearly enough when we urge that consideration be given by the rest of Canada to the development of these projects.

In order to make a living today, what do they tell our maritimers to do? Well, a short time ago in this House of Commons we were told to move to Ontario, to come up here to seek jobs.

Mr. MACKENZIE: Terrible.

Mr. BROOKS: The Minister of Veterans Affairs laughs. I wonder what he is laughing about. Is he laughing at the idea of maritimers moving out of their own country?

Mr. MACKENZIE: No. I think it is a terrible suggestion.

Mr. BROOKS: Is he laughing at the idea of their being exiled to some other part of the country? As a member of the government I should have hoped he would be more sympathetic than that and would assist in some way to establish industry or create work in that part of the dominion. We consider ourselves just as good as any other part of this dominion, and history will prove that is so.

Mr. MACKENZIE: So I believe.

Mr. BROOKS: We have done our part and made our contribution to this country, but the government, Mr. Speaker, have asked us to send our young people to other parts of Canada in order to find work. The government have asked them to leave their homes, their friends and their loved ones, and move away. Years ago we had one mass exile of people in the maritime provinces, and I will say that we do not want another, and I do not think we are entitled to another.

These are not only my own ideas that I am expressing this afternoon. I should like to read an article which appeared in the *Financial Post* a few weeks ago, dealing with the situation in the maritime provinces:

What follows the war boom in the maritime provinces?

Their unemployment figures in recent months have been among the highest in Canada. Prices in the fishing industry have slumped so seriously that informed estimates predict fishermen's income will be only half last year's. Maritime coal mines are again in the throes of labour trouble. A three-month communist-led strike of deep-sea fishermen has just ended.