

country, progress is retarded, settlement is checked, settlers are losing heart and abandoning a country the finest in Canada. The government of a nation that has a sense of its dignity and responsibility, should realize that the interests of Canada, its people, its future, are at stake, and the Department of Public Works should be above all politics and all parties.

Now, sir, as you are aware, the appropriation for the Prince Rupert floats and the Stewart wharf were tabled in this house, and yet, despite the fact that trade and commerce have almost doubled in both these places since these appropriations were made, these necessary works have not been done; in fact the appropriations were withdrawn.

Am I right in thinking that their withdrawal was due to politics?

Surely, sir, when you consider the justice of my demands you will not hesitate to put into the supplementary estimates for the present year the small sums which will give relief to these districts, and at the same time add to the revenues of the country.

Appended I present a list of the most necessary public works for the large constituency I represent. Those marked with an asterisk have the approbation of the federal engineer resident in Victoria; the others are as necessary, and, I trust the minister will see that money be provided in the supplementary estimates for that purpose.

Mr. Chairman I have here on my table a whole series of letters and petitions from these people, asking for a few dollars to construct a wharf to enable the people to carry on their legitimate vocations; and I have received the cold shoulder. The life of our people and the future of our young Canadians are at stake, and they are greater than your greenhouses and your parks and your squares; and I make an appeal to-day for these things for which we have asked. I am sure that the people of Canada are well aware that this government is falling down. When we find our people departing from this country, and the government, which is but the servant of the people, playing hide and seek with the destinies of our sons and our daughters, I say, Mr. Chairman—

The CHAIRMAN: I am sure my hon. friend will not complain if I refer him to the rule which says all discussions must be relevant to the matter before the committee.

Mr. BRADY: All right, Mr. Chairman. My feelings are deeper than I have words to express.

Mr. STEVENS: That is relevant.

Mr. BRADY: Where there are legitimate reasons for carrying on work already done in our cities, our harbours and our ports, that is all right and I have no objection; but when I find that in many parts of this country where facilities are necessary to hold the people,

[Mr. Brady.]

the necessary encouragement is not given them to remain. I think it is time that we entered a formal protest against all unnecessary expenditures and turned attention to those that are absolutely essential.

Mr. ROSS (Kingston): I want to say, Mr. Chairman, that for many reasons I am going to support the amendment. Members on the other side of the house, as well as the chairman, talk about what is relevant to this subject. We thought we had voted money for the beautification of Ottawa. But when we study the question we find that there are two or three different votes with practically the same object. If you want to find out what the beautification of Ottawa means and what it is costing the country, all you need to do is to walk around the canal and see what is being done. I considered that that was all a question of beautifying Ottawa, but it will be found that part of the work comes under railways and canals. That part of the work of beautifying Ottawa has been done in the following way: They have taken down an earth bank along the canal in order to put up a permanent cement wall. The earth has been thrown into the canal and for a time two or three men with shovels were throwing it out. I believe the water is now to be let into the canal and then dredges will be used to remove the earth. This is beautifying Ottawa at the expense of the country. We are willing to spend money but we are not willing to waste money, and we want the people of Ottawa and the country to understand that.

In the same way we believed that we were voting money for a park. We are told by the minister that on one side of the road the park is not under the Federal District Commission but that on the other side it is to be under the commission. The government should get this question straightened out and tell us what we are voting for. Perhaps it is a question of slipping through a vote here and another there but there is no question that this is a waste of money. Last night under the pretence of repairing the citadel at Quebec we voted \$150,000 and there was a waste of money there. This appropriation is also, I believe, an absolute waste of money and when we are asking for things that are important we find that the money is being used to throw earth from the bank into the channel of a canal, water being let in and then a dredge brought along to take the earth out again.

As soon as parliament began some time ago to discuss the question of water the city got busy and hired an engineer. I think after the amendment is carried quite enough money will