

have been much more but for the danger of landing cargoes in excess of the minimum tonnage.

The payroll of the casual workers is around a half million dollars, and some 200 workers are employed. Representations have been made mainly by the chamber of commerce of Corner Brook since 1964 to all levels of government, outlining the critical condition of the wharves and the effect on the economy of the city, and indeed of the whole western part of Newfoundland.

It is noted in the estimate that only \$200,000 is allocated toward the provision of new wharving and dock facilities for 1968-1969. However, this money is provided, as I understand, from the Public Works Department for pile testing, designs and other preliminary work. It follows therefore that with this amount of money it will not be possible to start construction in the same year. If this construction is not started next year I should like to point out to the minister that some 200 men will be put out of work and some half million dollars will be lost in pay to these employees. Further, the loss of this service will have far reaching effects on the provision of goods and services to the whole of the great northern peninsula.

If the minister responsible for regional development is sincere in this planned outline for all parts of the Atlantic region, and since the Minister of Public Works will no doubt be working closely with that department, I urge him to heed my request, which is offered with sincerity, to adopt emergency measures so that moneys will be provided to complete the harbour development project in Corner Brook and to save the government serious repercussions which would otherwise arise if this project is not completed next year.

**Mrs. MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway):** Mr. Chairman, I want to ask the minister for some information on several points. Coming from the Vancouver area I wonder what projects are planned to replace those that would have been possible with the winter works program. I have in mind the fact that unemployment figures were very much higher last winter in the months of November and December than they had been in the previous year in those two months, and that there is every indication that they will be going up higher again in these same two months. I wonder what program the minister is planning to supply as an alternative program to the winter works, because I am sure it will be necessary.

#### *Supply—Public Works*

He will remember that before we came here at the beginning of this year we attended a meeting of a number of workers from various trades in the North Vancouver shipyards in connection with shipbuilding, construction work and manufacturing. We were impressed by the large percentage of people who were laid off when the winter months came on. I have been looking at the estimates of the department and I just cannot find any project which I believe would be sufficient to care for the number of unemployed people there will be in this winter period.

The second point to which I should like to refer briefly relates to Roberts Bank. My colleague, the hon. member for Broadview, spoke about the recent opinion given by the former minister of public works, that the land comprised by the waterlots is within provincial jurisdiction. I am wondering how this will apply to the harbour and other attendant facilities at Roberts Bank. In other words, I wonder if the minister could let us know how the jurisdiction will be divided between the provincial and federal governments in connection with Roberts Bank, what facilities the federal government intends to build there and what will be left to the province—or perhaps I should say, what the province will leave to the federal government. It seems to me that we would be doing very well if we could get the legal opinion which the Minister of Transport assured us was being sought as to jurisdiction in the matter of Roberts Bank. I should like to ask the minister to enlighten the house as to the jurisdiction of his department in connection with the harbour facilities.

When I was on the west coast recently I heard that the provincial government was planning to take upon itself the building of quite a number of the facilities and that it might even lease them out to foreign companies. I would certainly like to hear what the minister has to say with regard to harbour facilities at Roberts Bank.

There is another matter I would like to bring up. Early this year I received letters from the building service employees union on the coast in connection with a cleaning contract they had with the Vancouver post office. They were complaining that the federal government did not adopt the policy of awarding contracts only to union firms, that it insisted on pursuing the policy of letting contracts to the lowest bidder without any particular concern for what it meant in terms of working conditions for the workers involved.