

Mr. RHEAUME (Translation): That will afford to the minister an opportunity of proving his earnestness.

Mr. DURANLEAU (Translation): I had no intention, sir, to take part in this debate, I simply wished to give a few explanations with reference to unemployment in Montreal and also as regards the work to be distributed in the various parts of Canada.

Mr. DENIS (Translation): Will the hon. minister permit me to put a question to him? On what conditions will the government advance \$3,000,000 to the city of Montreal? I also wish to inquire whether he is aware that the Quebec government is willing to advance \$3,000,000 to the city of Montreal, providing that the Dominion Government does likewise, and on the same conditions.

Mr. DURANLEAU (Translation): Mr. Speaker, I so stated a moment ago. As far as I am concerned, I would be disposed to request that an amount representing 60 per cent of the accounts of the city of Montreal, which have not yet been vouched for, be advanced and equally shared by the dominion and provincial governments.

Mr. DENIS (Translation): And this, unconditionally.

Mr. DURANLEAU (Translation): On the sole condition of course, that when these bills are vouched for they will equal the amounts advanced. Personally, I am ready to recommend that 30 per cent of the amount be advanced immediately by the dominion government and 30 per cent by the provincial government.

Mr. DENIS (Translation): You will not impose any condition on the province of Quebec.

Mr. DURANLEAU (Translation): As I have just stated with the sole understanding that we are to be reimbursed if the accounts vouched for do not amount to the sum advanced.

Mr. MERCIER (Translation): Reimbursed by whom? By the province of Quebec?

Mr. DURANLEAU (Translation): My hon. friend, is quite aware that we must deal with the provincial authorities. The duty of looking after the unemployed first rests with municipalities. Then, if the municipalities cannot cope with the task it behooves the provincial government, and lastly the dominion authorities come to the rescue of the provinces. Therefore, we can only transact with the Quebec government. I hope that, within a few days, we shall have succeeded

in convincing the Quebec authorities that this advance of 60 per cent on the accounts such as they exist, at present, should be granted to the city of Montreal.

Mr. F. G. SANDERSON (South Perth): Mr. Speaker, I desire to make only one or two observations on this bill. I shall confine my remarks more particularly to the province of Ontario, and shall corroborate the statements made this afternoon by the hon. member for West Middlesex (Mr. Elliott). Before I speak about Ontario, and before making a few observations in regard to the other provinces, I should like to say that this government is running true to form. It has brought down this bill in the dying days of the session, what perhaps may be the last session of this parliament. It is a bill providing for an expenditure of at least \$30,000,000 on public works throughout the Dominion of Canada, they say for the relief of unemployment. I am afraid, Mr. Speaker, that the method in their madness in regard to this bill is to endeavour to save themselves from defeat when the election comes on. If hon. members will go back to three years ago and look up Hansard they will see that the right hon. leader of the opposition (Mr. Mackenzie King) and those who sit behind him pleaded with the government then that if they wanted to relieve unemployment in the Dominion of Canada they should submit a program of public works. I remember that at that time the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Stewart) said that his department had nothing to do with the expenditure of money for the relief of unemployment, and the Prime Minister (Mr. Bennett) said that that was not the method of his government, and that he would never resort to that method in order to relieve unemployment in the Dominion of Canada. The members of the opposition at that time pleaded with the Minister of Public Works and with the Prime Minister at least to get away from the dole system, and if possible provide work by which men could earn their wages by doing a day's labour for the support of themselves and their wives and their children, and relieve unemployment in that way. But the Prime Minister said that that was not the policy of his government. Yet to-day we have the government coming down with this bill, which is nothing more or less than a bill for the expenditure of \$30,000,000, and perhaps more, for political purposes in the Dominion of Canada. I say that seriously Mr. Speaker, and I say it because there is not a member of the government who has yet got up in defence of this bill.