Supply-Public Works-Ontario

However, this government came into power; almost immediately they were compelled to call a special session of parliament to vote money for unemployment purposes, and they did vote \$20,000,000. What I want to ask the minister now is why, when he had \$5,000,-000 in his hands voted by this parliament, he did not spend that money and tell the Prime Minister there was no need to vote \$20,000,-000 for unemployment, that the only thing necessary at the special session was to vote \$20,000,000 less \$5,000,000.

The whole trouble was just as the hon. member for Quebec East said. If you look over this list you find that in the province of Alberta, which is represented by the Prime Minister, practically all the money voted last year was expended. The same thing applies to the province represented by the Minister of Public Works; in Ontario nearly all the money voted last year by the Liberal government was spent by him and his colleagues after the Liberal government went out of office and the Conservative party took over the ministerial benches. But in Quebec, in Nova Scotia and in the other provinces, I notice a different condition exists. Let us take Nova Scotia, for instance; \$302,000 was voted for public buildings while only \$126,000 was expended. Unemployment relief was just as necessary there as in any other province, but \$170,000 was left unexpended by the Minister of Public Works. Has he the same inferiority complex with regard to Nova Scotia that is held by some few people in the province of Ontario, and that was expressed by the Ottawa Journal, for instance, in its editorial two days ago, in which it tried to make out that the people of the maritimes were always coming to this government and asking for money? Is that why the money was not spent? Take New Brunswick; \$81,125 was Is that why the money was not voted for public buildings last year and only \$51,000 was expended. Again I ask the Minister of Public Works whether he suffers from that inferiority complex, coming from the province of Ontario, and if he does not want to give the maritime provinces a fair show in connection with the expenditure of public money. The same thing applies to Quebec. The sum of \$1,509,695 was voted by this parliament last year for public buildings, but the Minister of Public Works, as soon as the Conservative party came into power and he occupied his present important position, cut that expenditure down to \$600,000, leaving \$900,000 unexpended.

Now let us take harbours and rivers in the different provinces. The Liberal government voted \$1,263,728 for harbours and rivers in the province of Nova Scotia, and \$229,000 of that

money remains unexpended. I could go right down the list. Quebec, for instance has \$600,000 unexpended; British Columbia has \$100,000 unexpended, and so on. As I said before, the total amount unexpended is something over \$5,000,000, but here is the principal point I want to make in regard to this matter. In my remarks a few days ago I showed that whoever was responsible for making up these estimates did not make them up in a businesslike or correct manner, and the first hon. gentleman to object to my statement was the Minister of Public Works. I proved, I think to the satisfaction of every business man who listened to me or who read my statement, that instead of a saving of \$37,000,000 in the estimates this year, there was in fact, and only on the surface, a saving of only \$12,000,000.

To-day I am going further, and this is the reason I asked for the statement which the Minister of Public Works was good enough to hand me this afternoon. This statement shows that although this \$38,000,000 appears in the estimates, only \$32,000,000 was expended, and in other words there is a difference of over \$5,000,000. If you take that \$5,000,000 from the \$12,000,000 which I showed the other day was the real decrease in the estimates, instead of there being a saving of \$37,000,000 as this book shows, there is only a saving of some \$7,000,000. Let me go a little further. In 1930, when the Liberal government was in power, under item XVII, "Public Works—income," the Liberal govern-ment voted \$25,000,000. When my right hon. friend the Prime Minister came into power, surrounded by his able cabinet-

Mr. MANJON: Hear, hear.

Mr. DUFF: I include in that my friend the Minister of Railways and the Minister of Trade and Commerce, who did not say anything. When the Prime Minister gathered this great aggregation around him and wanted to show that he was going to economize, the first thing he did-presumably with the consent of the Minister of Public Works-was to turn to the maritime provinces. The estimates were reduced from \$25,000,000, which was voted last year by the Liberal government for public works, to \$17,000,000 this year, a difference of \$8,000,000. So if you add the \$8,000,000 to the \$5,000,000 which was unexpended, and deduct \$12,000,000 from that, you will find that instead of the Tory government saving \$37,000,000 they are actually \$1,000,000 behind the Liberal government.

I might go further and show that this socalled saving claimed by the Tory government is only a figment of their imagination, because in addition to saving the money which I

[Mr. Duff.]