

With respect to the Fishing Vessel Indemnity Account, abnormal weather conditions in most of the fishing areas have been reflected by heavy deficits over the past two years as compared with a satisfactory experience in prior years. The Department is presently engaged in a detailed study to ascertain the extent to which factors other than weather may have been operative during this period so as to determine what further changes in the regulations are practical or to what extent the premium rates should be revised.

Paragraph 54 deals with the winter house building program. Here is a case where the Minister of Labour announced, in the House, on March 26, 1964, that because the success of this program had led to shortages in labour and materials. As the substantial volume of housing construction reached the final stages, the incentive payment would be denied to some builders whose dwellings would otherwise have been substantially completed by March 31, and therefore the date of final inspection under this program, as I say here, was extended from March 31 to April 15, 1964. This, however, was contrary to Department of Labour Vote 34d which was quite specific in limiting it to March 31.

Now I can point out to the Committee that the Minister of Labour, on March 23, 1965, announced in the House that the period for completion of the 1964/65 winter program was again being extended to April 15, 1965, and the Minister added that it is the government's intention to place before the House an item in the supplementary estimates for the fiscal year 1965/66 to authorize the extension of the program. This is what happened and, therefore, I would say, the action of the Minister in taking the following year in this way would, doubtless, commend itself to members of the Committee. That is the point I raised by putting the extension in supplementary estimates for the House.

54. *Winter house building program.* Department of Labour Vote 34d in the amount of \$20 million authorized payments, in accordance with terms and conditions approved by the Governor in Council under the winter house building program, of \$500 per dwelling unit substantially built during the period December 1, 1963 to March 31, 1964.

To establish that a dwelling unit was one on which the incentive could be paid and which was substantially built within the period specified in the legislation required that it be subject to inspection, first, at or near its initial stage of construction on or after December 1, 1963, and finally prior to or about March 31, 1964. These inspections were made on behalf of the Department by the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

On March 26, 1964 the Minister announced in the House of Commons that because the success of the program had led to shortages in labour and materials as the substantial volume of housing construction reached the final stages, the incentive payment would be denied to some builders whose dwellings would otherwise have been substantially completed by March 31, and therefore the date of final inspection under this program was being extended from March 31 to April 15, 1964.

The effect of this would seem to be that some dwelling units that were not substantially built on or before March 31, 1964 would be regarded as qualifying for an incentive bonus and therefore the extension of the time for final inspection required the approval of Parliament.