

the reasons for these reductions. My hon. friend asked as to the appropriations not required. The appropriation for Saskatchewan was \$609,500, and the expenditure was \$537,323. Certain buildings were not completed, and one or two others were not undertaken. The details are as follows:

PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Saskatchewan

Appropriations—Expenditure—Remarks

Yorkton public building—addition, \$3,000; \$1,650.40; completed.

Wilkie—public building, \$40,000; \$37,780.77; completed.

Saskatoon—public building, \$445,000; \$405,583.14; completed.

North Battleford—immigration building, \$30,000; \$26,132.37; completed.

Indian Head—forestry building—addition, \$8,000; \$7,199.42; completed.

Melville—public building, \$31,000; \$31,000; completed.

Biggar—public building, \$10,000; nil; not undertaken.

Canora—public building, \$20,000; \$17,765.69; completed.

Arcola—public building, \$12,000; \$158.29; not undertaken.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: All right.

Mr. DONNELLY: I agree with the minister that the erection of public buildings does relieve unemployment. It may not be the best method of relief, but to a certain extent it does help. I agree also with the hon. member for North Winnipeg, that public buildings should be built only where they are needed. In a growing and young country such as Saskatchewan many public buildings are needed. I can state that in every constituency in Saskatchewan public buildings are required. Looking through the estimates one thing impressed me more than anything else. I have sat in this house for the last four or five weeks and have heard people talk about a depression existing in this country. The people who talked most about the depression were the farmers from the western prairies, and more particularly from Saskatchewan. There is more talk about unemployment and depression in western Canada than anywhere else. Bearing that in mind I would ask hon. members to look at the estimates for public buildings. We find that moneys are not to be expended where they should be; public buildings are not to be located where they should be located. In the year 1930, \$302,000 was voted for public buildings in Nova Scotia; this year the figure is \$261,000, a reduction of 15 per cent. In New Brunswick there was an appropriation of \$81,125 last year, and this year it is \$175,900, an increase of nearly 100 per cent. Then we come to the province of Quebec, for which last year the appropriation was \$1,509,695, while this year it is \$1,076,900, a decrease

of 30 per cent. Last year the figure for Ontario was \$2,616,323.95; this year it is \$1,379,400, a decrease of about 50 per cent. Now we come to the western provinces, where we hear of hard times and depression. Last year \$382,600 was voted for public buildings for Manitoba; this year the amount is only \$81,700, a decrease of 80 per cent. That decrease occurs where there is unemployment and extreme depression.

Mr. SPENCE: There was too much voted last year.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: That is a decrease of more than 80 per cent; it is about 300 per cent.

Mr. DONNELLY: Well, I did not figure it out very closely. Then we come to the province of Saskatchewan, and we find that last year \$1,010,500 was voted; this year the amount is \$176,050.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: That is about one-sixth.

Mr. DONNELLY: That is a decrease of 80 per cent, or a little more. In that province there is more unemployment than in any other spot in Canada. For Alberta the amount last year was \$1,676,000; this year it is \$521,000. Again there is a reduction of at least 70 per cent. For British Columbia the amount was \$203,300 last year and it is only \$81,000 this year. In other words, where unemployment is greatest we find the least money being expended by this government to help unemployment conditions. I think I may state frankly that in my constituency there is more depression than in any other part of western Canada. During the past election campaign my Conservative opponent stated on numerous occasions "If I am elected the Conservative government will build a post office at Assiniboia." Undoubtedly a post office was needed at that point. I ask this government: when are you going to build it? I would like to see it, but I do not see anything in the estimates to provide for such a building. The construction of a post office building will undoubtedly help the unemployment problem in that vicinity. For two years there has been no crop and there is no sign of a crop this year. The people are not sowing their seeds; they cannot sow. The wind is blowing; the land is drying out, and there is no chance of getting their seed back. Those people are looking for relief, and some measure of assistance will have to be given them. Why not erect a public building which is very much needed and give them relief in that way?