

on cater for the eastern part of the United States and that throughout this waterway, we shall be in a position to transport our products at a low rate and profitably. However, all remember that during the last four years, we had to be thrifty so as to balance our budgets and maintain the credit of Canada. Hon. members opposite should realize that it was impossible for us to carry on improvements on the Richelieu river. I may inform my hon. friends that this project is under consideration, and I hope that before long we shall be in a position to request the house to authorize certain outlays in this respect.

Mr. RAYMOND (Translation): Make haste! You will not be long in power.

Mr. DURANLEAU (Translation): So far as the work for which we are requesting authorization, one may note that we specially sought to relieve unemployment.

When we are criticized for having an amount of \$40,000 voted for a retaining wall at St. Lambert, I may remind hon. members that there are, on the south shore of the St. Lawrence, thousands and thousands of unemployed, large parishes comprising former citizens of Montreal who have made their domicile on the other side of the river and who nevertheless earn their living in Montreal. We are aware in what situation these people now find themselves. Montreal thought proper, by regulations, to close its doors to workers who do not reside within the limits of the city, with the result that numerous citizens on the south shore are at present without work. We considered that the building of a protecting wall would give quite a lot of work to the people residing on the south shore. I shall point out to my hon. friends opposite that it is simply a question of extending a wall which at present is exposed to be broken by the ice in the spring; we must extend it to the mainland, so as to protect it.

Mr. BARRETTE (Translation): Hear, hear.

Mr. DURANLEAU (Translation): My hon. friend may rest assured that quite a number of people on the south shore, even those on the shores of the Richelieu and St. John's rivers may find work there.

Mr. BARRETTE (Translation): As far as Berthier.

Mr. DURANLEAU (Translation): My hon. friends who complain that the program of public works contain nothing for their counties will realize that it was impossible to give details of all the work which we intend to carry out.

[Mr. Duranleau.]

The hon. member for Hull (Mr. Fournier) pointed out just now, the items as a whole which we request the house to authorize and which amount to many millions of dollars. This will allow the government to distribute as fairly as possible the work in the various parts of this country. One must have noted the amount of \$2,500,000, "harbours and rivers generally." This simply means that work will be carried out in harbours on the St. Lawrence river and other rivers from the amount included in this item. This project also comprises an amount of \$2,000,000 for the Interior department. There is another item of \$2,000,000 under the heading of "public buildings generally" — "improvements, additions, fittings, etc." These amounts will permit us to do justice, as much as possible, to all counties of Quebec, in all localities where unemployment prevails.

My hon. friends will note also in the schedule the last amount of \$500,000. This item will again permit us to do justice to the various parts of all the provinces of Canada. May I request hon. members opposite not to complain too much. We shall endeavour to act as fairly as possible towards every part of this country and all localities where unemployment prevails.

Mr. RHEAUME (Translation): Will the hon. minister permit me to put a question?

Mr. DURANLEAU (Translation): With pleasure.

Mr. RHEAUME (Translation): To prove his good faith, his sincerity, could not the minister, out of this amount of \$2,500,000 find \$50,000 to improve the Chambly canal? You can also preach by giving the example.

Mr. DURANLEAU (Translation): My hon. friend will realize that I cannot give an affirmative reply this evening. These general items being authorized, it will be the duty of the government afterwards to distribute, as fairly as possible, the work. The hon. member is perfectly aware that I shall neglect nothing to obtain work to be done on or along the borders of the Richelieu river and also for the Chambly canal; the government will have to decide where the work is to be carried on.

Mr. RHEAUME (Translation): That will afford the means to the hon. minister of proving his sincerity.

Mr. DURANLEAU (Translation): My hon. friend will agree that I have the greatest interest in the beautiful Richelieu region as far as St. Johns; however, it is not always possible to obtain all that we wish.