

31st of March some of the works are continued, that they will appear in and be provided for in the estimates of next year?

Mr. BENNETT: I was very specific, Mr. Chairman, in endeavouring to say that the 31st of March would not be the limit of time within which moneys would have to be paid out of this vote, if the vote were not depleted, to meet obligations incurred antecedently to that date. I make that clear.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Does the Prime Minister wish this house and the country to understand that parliament is to vote \$20,000,000 for unemployment and that he and his government are to be free to use that \$20,000,000 as they please over an indefinite period of time? Parliament has been called in special session to deal with an exceptional condition of unemployment which may arise this winter, called now because probably it will be February before the regular session will be held. But at this special session, according to the statement now made by the Prime Minister, we are to be asked to vote \$20,000,000, not to meet a situation between now and the end of the present fiscal year, but to vote \$20,000,000 which the government may use as it pleases and, as the Prime Minister has just said, which it may give to provincial governments or municipalities to do with as they please; and that whatever they do with it, still this country is to be obligated to meet payment, no matter whether those obligations are incurred after the 31st of March or before.

Mr. BENNETT: That is exactly what I did not say.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: If I have misinterpreted my hon. friend in any way I hope he will correct me.

Mr. BENNETT: It should not be necessary.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: My hon. friend has referred to previous governments during the ten years ending March 31, 1931. I think that here a statement of the amounts contributed by the federal government for unemployment relief in the various provinces during the ten years ending March 31, 1931. I think that includes all the moneys that have been paid out for unemployment relief by the federal government over that period of time. It takes in part of the period during which the previous Conservative administration was in office and the entire period of the Liberal administration up to March 31 of this year.

It includes the period 1920-21, 1921-22, 1922-23 in which, as hon. members will recall, there was very serious industrial depression throughout Canada. The amounts paid out to all the provinces, and through the provinces to the municipalities or direct to municipalities in relief, and including administrative expenditures, were, in the following fiscal years as follows:

1920-21.. . . . .	\$343,036 55
1921-22.. . . . .	500,000 00
1922-23.. . . . .	924,025 29
1923-24.. . . . .	4,273 83
1924-25.. . . . .	.....
1925-26.. . . . .	.....
1926-27.. . . . .	77,684 66
1927-28.. . . . .	.....
1928-29.. . . . .	.....
1929-30.. . . . .	.....

The total of contributions by the federal government to unemployment relief were therefore, in the years 1920-30 inclusive, \$1,849,020.33.

My hon. friend is asking us to vote \$20,000,000 for unemployment relief. The purpose for which this session was called, according to the words he has put into the mouth of His Excellency the Governor General, is not to deal with a situation that may run on through the years to come but to meet the exceptional economic conditions existing at this time, with the resultant unemployment. That, it was to be expected, meant until the beginning of the next fiscal year, a period of six months. Now, as I have shown, the total amount paid out in a period of ten years, from 1920 to 1930 inclusive, was \$1,849,020; and three or four years of that period, as hon. members will certainly recall, were years of great industrial depression in Canada resulting from the conditions that prevailed immediately after the war.

May I take the further payments made from the federal treasury indirectly to meet conditions affecting unemployment in Canada, and give in addition the amounts paid out from the federal government to the various provinces under the Employment Offices Coordination Act. I will give the figures for the twelve fiscal years beginning from the time at which the act came into force:

1918-19.. . . . .	\$ 53,615 99
1919-20.. . . . .	169,207 61
1920-21.. . . . .	233,890 75
1921-22.. . . . .	239,269 01
1922-23.. . . . .	237,032 60
1923-24.. . . . .	200,000 00
1924-25.. . . . .	150,000 00
1925-26.. . . . .	150,000 00
1926-27.. . . . .	150,000 00
1927-28.. . . . .	150,000 00
1928-29.. . . . .	150,000 00
1929-30.. . . . .	75,000 00