

breakwaters, boat landings, wharves, boat shelters and so on could be undertaken.

I am thinking particularly of the fishing communities. If I may, I should like to give an instance of what I mean. Only this afternoon I signed a letter addressed to the Minister of Public Works asking him to consider recommending a very small work, something which would not involve much money but which would provide cooperation with the enterprise of fishermen in the particular section to which I referred. That is a case, Mr. Prime Minister, if I may address you through the chairman, where the lobster fishermen today have to drag their traps down the beach to low water mark and wait until the tide comes in before they can put the traps into their boats. Coming back in with either freight, fish or mail, a boat of any size has to send a small boat ashore and drag it up on the beach fifteen, twenty or thirty feet. The coast is not protected; seaweed is entirely gone from it, which makes it open to storms. For that reason some protection is needed. This facility may cost a couple of thousands of dollars, and is in a community where employment is very much needed. It is in a community the people of which have tried to work out their own salvation. There are ten boats there now, and I believe two or three more are being built. Then, there are other places along the shore where the same kind of work might be done.

I am not asking the Prime Minister to construct works which are not needed, but I am asking him, if he can see his way clear, to combine relief with provisions for facilities for those enterprising fishermen, whereby they will be allowed to help themselves and avoid being on the dole. I have called the Prime Minister's attention to this particular section, because I think it might be changed so as to include this type of work.

Then, further, only this afternoon I spoke to the Minister of Marine to ascertain the respective jurisdictions as between him and the Minister of Public Works. I believe that wharves, breakwaters and landing places of this type are constructed by the Minister of Public Works, but are under the control and direction of the Minister of Marine.

Mr. BENNETT: After they are finished.

Mr. RALSTON: Therefore the words "control and direction" found in section 4 (a) would apply, if the Prime Minister could see fit to insert the words "Department of Marine" or "Department of Fisheries."

[Mr. Ralston.]

Mr. BENNETT: The hon. gentleman I am sure has a very clear understanding of the difficulties of expanding this measure in the way he indicates, for I do not know how many hundreds of places would claim to be treated exactly as he has indicated that we should treat a given place at an expenditure of \$2,000. The hon. gentleman will recall that last year it was thought by hon. gentlemen opposite that I should state to the committee that we would not use this relief measure for public works, it being thought that we might improperly use relief moneys in that sense.

I suppose the hon. gentleman realizes that the Department of the Interior comes into the matter because of the fact that it has control of the national parks, and with respect to the expenditures by the National Defence department they are for works that have some remote or near relation to that department in connection with airways and matters of the kind. It was thought that it was very desirable to have this work undertaken when the opportunity offered. Of course, both these departments have organizations for dealing with these particular works, as perhaps the hon. gentleman knows. He certainly knows with respect to one department, and he also knows that the Department of the Interior does carry on parks works every year which necessitates this very class of work being done.

My mind not long since was travelling apparently along the same lines as that of the hon. gentleman. I thought possibly a scheme of general repairs and painting might offer employment to the unemployed in communities which would not otherwise be affected, but the Minister of Public Works had already anticipated that last year in connection with repairs for various public undertakings, and he has also some provision for this year. I think it will be found as we proceed that there is a provision in this statute that is broad enough to permit this to be done. I want to put this to the hon. gentleman, who I feel sure will see our difficulty. For the federal government to engage in constructing all the little—if I might use that word—undertakings that would be sought to be constructed would be an almost impossible position. I can tell the hon. gentleman I know something of that from dire experience. But whatever can be done to remedy the difficulties along the coast to which he refers I think will be done, and rather than expand this bill, when the measure for dealing with public works and under-