

province, and I am glad to tell hon. friends opposite that we have really done so. A committee was formed composed of the mayors of these different municipalities, both Liberal and Conservative, and this committee attended to the distribution of the work. Everyone in need of work, whether Catholic or Protestant, or whatever race he might be, was protected and given his share. I do not consider that my constituency was treated any better than other parts of the province. It is a strip of land between the rivers St. Lawrence and Richelieu and protection walls are needed on both sides. This was considered to be the best time to carry out these works, as it would relieve unemployment.

Mr. LAPOINTE: Does my hon. friend contend that twenty-five per cent of the employed are in Chambly?

Mr. DURANLEAU: I do not know.

Mr. LAPOINTE: Twenty-five per cent of the money was spent there.

Mr. DURANLEAU: I know that the work carried on did not give employment to everyone. As a matter of fact the work was carried on in shifts, some men working three days in the week while others came on for the remaining period. Even with this system many men were unable to obtain employment. I think if my hon. friend knew the real situation which existed in that part of the province he would not make the criticism he has.

Mr. GRAY: Mr. Chairman, I should like to ask the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Stewart) a question with respect to an item to be found at the bottom of page 66 of the report of the dominion director of unemployment relief. This item is for \$14,000 to cover the construction of a wharf on Walpole island in my constituency, and I should like to know upon whose recommendation this work was authorized.

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): I have not that information before me, and therefore I cannot answer my hon. friend. However, I think this work has been under consideration for some time, and in looking over what might be done, the engineers included works of this character as being suitable to be undertaken at this time.

Mr. GRAY: I notice that this work has not been proceeded with. In common with other hon. members of this house, I was asked to submit certain proposals for the relief of unemployment in my constituency. I submitted certain proposals with which the minister is familiar, one being the construction

of a public wharf in the city of Sarnia. The minister has shown a great deal of sympathy towards this proposal, but it has not been proceeded with. I did not recommend any works to be constructed on Walpole island. This is an Indian reservation inhabited wholly by Indians who are wards of the government, with the exception of a customs officer and perhaps an Indian agent. How any government could think of spending \$14,000 on a small Indian island when there are other places with large numbers of unemployed, is hard to conceive. Perhaps the fact that the work was not proceeded with shows that the government found out its mistake in time. I press upon the minister that he brings forward all correspondence or anything he may have showing who recommended the expenditure of \$14,000 on a wharf on a small Indian island where the inhabitants are at present receiving the moneys due them from the Indian Department. If this work was authorized, then surely the wharf at Sarnia should have been proceeded with. I object most strenuously to money being authorized or even considered in the manner in which this apparently was.

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): My hon. friend need have no anxiety as regards this money being expended. The work will not be proceeded with under this measure. While the circumstances did warrant the carrying on of the work, it would have to appear in the regular estimates and my hon. friend will have an opportunity to oppose it.

Mr. GRAY: Will the minister undertake to give me the information I desire?

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): I shall endeavour to find out where the recommendation came from and give it to my hon. friend. I understand he is opposed to the work.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: Everything comes to him who waits. I do not like to introduce a new subject until the old one is exhausted, otherwise the continuity of the record is broken. There are two or three questions I should like to discuss very briefly, but I do not see any of the ministers in their seats—

Mr. SPENCE: There are several of them present.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: I had not completed my sentence. I do not see present either the Prime Minister or the Minister of Agriculture, the ones to whom I should like to address my remarks through you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps they will be in presently. I should like to refer to one question with respect to the petition regarding the proposed dollar-an-acre