

tributed and spent in northern Ontario—only for political purposes. The following is the affidavit:

Ontario, District of Sudbury, To wit:

I, Aurèle Rhéaume of the town of Chelmsford in the district of Sudbury, labourer, make oath and say:

1. That the document hereto annexed and marked with the letter "A" is a true copy of an affidavit made and subscribed by me, this deponent before J. Alex. Bastien, on the 30th day of July A.D. 1930.

2. That on the 29th day of July A.D. 1930 I was advised by Wilfrid Vaillancourt, the foreman in charge of the work of the northern development branch of Ontario on the road between concessions two and three of the township of Balfour that unless such affidavit be made by me and shown to him, Raoul Vaillancourt, and G. A. Chouinard I would lose my employment with the northern development branch of Ontario which was that of labourer.

3. That I have voted as shown on the said affidavit for the reason that before the elections it was said that most of the workers would be called upon to take such affidavit and being in need of work to support my family I could not take the chance of being in the obligation to perjure myself in order to stay at work.

(sgd) Aurèle Rhéaume.

Sworn before me at the town of Chelmsford in the district of Sudbury this 25th day of August A.D. 1930

(sgd) Louis Groulx,  
A commissioner etc.

I have two objects in mind in making my remarks; first, to explain the particular situation which prevails in northern Ontario and, second, to show how the public money is expended in that part of the province. The hon. member for East Algoma (Mr. Nicholson) is present and he must know of the facts. If he does not know, then I must tell him that I know how the public money is spent in his district and I know it is spent in the same manner in Toronto and in other districts in the province.

I offer these few remarks in order to enlighten the committee as to the special conditions which prevail in the north. Before this money is voted in the manner suggested, we in northern Ontario, being faced with the situation we are, should have special protection. I leave these remarks for the consideration of the committee in the hope that it will assist the different members in arriving at a decision as to voting this amount of money.

Mr. MARTIAL RHEAUME (St. Johns-Iberville) (Translation): Mr. Chairman, may I put a question to the hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Bennett), seeing that he replaces in the house the hon. Minister of Labour (Senator Robertson). In the course of the month of August, 1930, the hon. Minister of Labour

sent a telegram to the mayors of all towns having a population of at least 10,000 people, in order to ascertain the conditions of unemployment in those towns. I am one of the councillors of the municipality of St. Johns; we answered the questionnaire which was sent to us; I wish now to inquire from the hon. Prime Minister whether, when the distribution of the \$20,000,000, which will be voted, takes place they will take into consideration the answers of the council. As we were asked in this questionnaire to make suggestions the municipal council of St. Johns suggested to the hon. Minister of Labour to spend a certain amount on the Chambly canal, in the county of St. Johns. I wish to know whether the answers to the questionnaire will be given consideration, and when the mayors will be notified of the government's decision. We have, at present, in St. Johns about 300 persons unemployed; within a month we shall probably have between 500 and 600. Our principal industry in St. Johns is the Singer Co. which employs at present more than 1,000 hands. Lately these people have been working only 32 hours per week. I wish therefore to inquire from the hon. Prime Minister whether, heads of family with a salary of 30 to 35 cents per hour, and only working 32 hours per week will be helped, also whether this help will extend to the 500 or 600 unemployed that we expect to have during the coming winter, in St. Johns? Judging from the discussion which took place this afternoon, I am led to understand that the greater portion of this money will be spent on highways. I think, sir, that within a month, at least in the province of Quebec, road work must be suspended because days are shortening and that we know when autumn comes, especially after October 15, it is certainly too late to carry on such works. During the election campaign I had as a Conservative opponent Mr. Ivan Sabourin who propounded everywhere that it was the hon. Mr. Bennett's intention, if he carried the election, to call an emergency session and relieve unemployment. Should it be the intention to use part of these \$20,000,000 to build roads, I wonder where the unemployed will find food next winter. Everybody knows that the greatest part of road work is carried on by means of machinery. I am speaking with some experience, because we spent in St. Johns, in the course of the last five years, half a million dollars, and I must say that we never had on our pay-lists more than 60 to 65 men during a period of three months.

I see that the hon. Minister of Marine (Mr. Duranleau) is in his seat. I do not know