

Unemployment Continuance Act

966.25 up to February 29, 1932. At St. Lambert, which is another good town in my hon. friend's constituency, there is another protection wall, the amount being \$69,200 up to February, 1932. Then in Vercheres there is a new breakwater, the amount being \$10,354.44. These sums added together make a total of \$121,475.48 out of a total expenditure for the whole province of Quebec of \$415,000. Apparently more than twenty-five per cent of the unemployed in that province are in my hon. friend's constituency, because after all this money has been voted to relieve unemployment. My hon. friend is certainly generous to his constituents. I cannot blame him for that, but if our own suggestions had met with a better reception, perhaps I should not be so keen about complaining. Surely my hon. friend the minister should give a chance to the other sixty-four members from the province of Quebec. More than twenty-five per cent of the whole expenditure in the province being made in the county of one minister is a little too much; and if you add to that what has been done for Haileybury, I think you will agree that the unemployed in other parts of the country are not getting their share of the money.

Mr. HACKETT: Is the hon. gentleman aware that half the population of Quebec is in Montreal, and that this is one of the faubourgs of Montreal?

Mr. LAPOINTE: Apparently the faubourgs are well treated, as well as the city itself. If I am not mistaken the works were stopped and not proceeded with in the city of Montreal, while the Minister of Marine saw that the works were proceeded with in his riding.

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): My hon. friend has referred to these works in the vicinity of Montreal. Unemployment was acute in that city and these works were carried on adjacent to and in what I understand to be the suburbs of Montreal. The works were of a character which could be readily performed at that time of year and which would afford relief to the largest possible number of men.

Mr. HEAPS: Were people from Montreal employed there?

Mr. HACKETT: Certainly.

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): They lived there.

Mr. LAPOINTE: Is the minister sure of that?

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): I understand there were some employed from Montreal. The instructions were that the men to be employed

[Mr. Lapointe.]

upon this work were to be engaged after consultation with the mayor, the reeve or whoever the head of the municipality might be; they were to be taken on in rotation and in a manner best calculated to relieve unemployment in that particular area. I am sure that this was done and that the desired result was obtained. I am sure that if my hon. friend will review all the works undertaken in the province of Quebec and in the city of Quebec he will find that that city has been fairly and generously dealt with, taking into consideration not only the dominion works but those carried on in cooperation with the province. This picture must be considered as a whole. Where very substantial works are being carried on by the province or by the municipality and the province together toward which the dominion makes a substantial contribution, then it may be expected that unemployment will be fairly well taken care of in that particular area and that it will not be as necessary for the dominion to undertake public works on its own account. It must be borne in mind always, as I have said before, that the object of these works was the relief of unemployment. If unemployment was being relieved by works undertaken in the manner I have indicated, then it became unnecessary for the dominion to prosecute work on its own account. The character of the works which we can undertake and carry on is rather limited, as my hon. friend well knows Buildings cannot be constructed by day labour to any advantage, especially in the winter time, while sewer work, roads and other projects of that character executed by the city and province in cooperation afford a greater measure of relief. I know nothing about the works which are stated to have been held up in the city of Montreal; that would come under the city administration and the provincial authorities.

Mr. DURANLEAU: I desire to make a short explanation in connection with the remarks of the former Minister of Justice (Mr. Lapointe). It is quite true that works were performed in my constituency to the amount of \$120,000, but it must be remembered that the south shore is composed of many villages and towns and cities which are suburbs of the city of Montreal. These municipalities are inhabited by men who used to work in the city of Montreal. When the unemployment problem became acute in Montreal, outsiders were stopped from coming on to the island in order to obtain work. A great number of unemployed were created in my constituency because of this fact. We had to relieve unemployment the same as other places in the