

*Supply—Public Works*

about six or seven feet now. Dredging and deepening the cove of the harbour to about 16 feet would provide anchorage for many ships. When they unload at the piers they could get out of the way, go up the cove and anchor overnight. There is no need of my labouring the point; the minister is fully aware of it.

There is another point I should like to mention for the minister's information. Over the years much dredging has been done in the harbour. If the pier were extended another 600 feet much of the dredging would be done away with. The coal company has dumps where they dump the slag and refuse from their mines over toward Table head where 1-V colliery is located. A strong tide runs through there and a lot of the dirt and refuse is carried into the channel of the harbour when the tide flows in and out. Of course, the logical thing would have been to remove the dumps years ago. If that were done a lot of the dirt and refuse would not come into the harbour, but it has not been done. If you extended the pier out another 600 feet you would prevent that waste from the dumps coming in; it would go out to sea instead of coming into the harbour. I am reasonably sure that because of the economic situation in that particular area and the recognition of the fact that it is a town in which it is going to be difficult to locate anything to take the place of coal because of the location of transportation facilities—there are good railways and that sort of thing, of course, but it is not the kind of town which could attract industry—there is a possibility of maintaining that town and its investments if the harbour improvements I am suggesting are carried out by the minister's department. Perhaps it is not too late even now to include something in the supplementary estimates.

The second point I would like to mention again concerns a project at Port Morien. I am certain that I have the wholehearted support of the Minister of Fisheries in these two projects. The one I am going to speak of now has been unfinished for about two years. As the minister knows there is a breakwater at Port Morien in the Morien basin. Now, Port Morien is a thriving little village with a population of approximately 1,600. There is a fish plant and a lobster factory at that point. The factory does some canning of lobsters on a small scale.

The breakwater there is another project that was built after the war. It did bring about a great improvement at that point but it is inadequate to handle the fishing industry around the Morien basin. For two years I have been urging that something be done and

I know that the fish operator at that point has written much correspondence expressing how anxious he is to obtain some improvements there. If the breakwater were extended it would enable larger boats to fish out of that point and it would provide shelter for them after they unloaded their fish at the pier.

The two projects I have mentioned are not big projects. It amazes me when I hear discussions about more money being spent for technical aid for underdeveloped countries. I am not objecting to such expenditures but I do believe that charity should begin at home. We have here an opportunity of doing something for people who have been taxpayers over the years. These are displaced coal miners and this is an opportunity to rehabilitate them by improving the fishing industry. The difficulty in obtaining half a million dollars for a project that is going to create new wealth in Canada and maintain wealth that has already been established amazes me.

We are big-hearted; we can pick up a power plant in Ontario and ship it over to India, and rightly so, and we pat ourselves on the back and say, "What a great contribution we are making to world rehabilitation". There is great difficulty, however, in getting something done for our own people in communities such as the one I have been describing. The people in this community are going to be taxpayers and if their income is improved the Minister of National Revenue will receive more money.

I should think it would be a great source of pride to the Minister of Public Works if he were to carry out the suggestions I made with regard to Glace Bay harbour and Port Morien. If he were to go down there in a couple of years' time he would see what a difference a small expenditure would make to the two communities I have mentioned. It would assist in building up a Canadian industry which is becoming extremely important on this continent.

Without labouring the matter any further, I would like the minister to tell me definitely before we conclude this item what his department has in mind in relation to these two projects.

I have received letters from the minister. He said the matter was considered last year on the estimates and that it is going to be considered for 1957-58. I have heard that story for two years and it is rather discouraging that nothing has been done. When you get some encouragement about these two projects you inform your people that it is in the hands of a very capable minister who is very much interested in Nova Scotia and its future and you pass on the encouragement you get to the community and everybody is