

## Supply—Public Works—Quebec

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): Very well, I shall try to supply the hon. gentleman with a copy immediately. I wish to place before the committee the information contained in the following statement:

Appropriations and Expenditures, 1930-31	
Capital—Public buildings	
Vote No. 180—	
Appropriation . . . . .	\$ 2,927,830 00
Expenditures . . . . .	2,755,643 47
Income—Public buildings	
Vote 182, Nova Scotia—	
Appropriation . . . . .	\$ 302,000 00
Expenditure . . . . .	126,927 06
Vote 183, New Brunswick—	
Appropriation . . . . .	\$ 81,125 00
Expenditures . . . . .	50,297 30
Vote 184, Maritime provinces generally—	
Appropriation . . . . .	\$ 55,500 00
Expenditures . . . . .	55,498 84
Vote 185, Quebec—	
Appropriation . . . . .	\$ 1,509,695 00
Expenditures . . . . .	561,525 76
Vote 186, Ontario—	
Appropriation . . . . .	\$ 2,616,323 95
Expenditures . . . . .	2,283,361 92
Vote 187, Manitoba—	
Appropriation . . . . .	\$ 382,600 00
Expenditures . . . . .	243,799 35
Vote 188, Saskatchewan—	
Appropriation . . . . .	\$ 1,010,500 00
Expenditures . . . . .	837,897 46
Vote 189, Alberta—	
Appropriation . . . . .	\$ 1,676,000 00
Expenditures . . . . .	1,588,036 99
Vote 190, British Columbia—	
Appropriation . . . . .	\$ 203,300 00
Expenditures . . . . .	180,041 87
Vote 191, Generally—	
Appropriation . . . . .	\$ 567,500 00
Expenditures . . . . .	523,387 12
Vote 192, Rents, repairs, etc.—	
Appropriation . . . . .	\$ 6,403,750 00
Expenditure . . . . .	6,310,957 82

Mr. HEAPS: Mr. Chairman, there is one matter arising out of the information which the minister has just given that I should like to bring to the attention of the committee. It appears that there are very large reductions throughout these votes as compared with the expenditures in previous years. This means that the work to be undertaken by the various departments of the government during the ensuing fiscal year will be very much less than in former years, which in turn means that the unemployed problem will be still further aggravated, that is, the men formerly employed on government work will not have an opportunity of obtaining work during the coming months. In view of these very substantial reductions I would suggest that the government undertake an extensive program of public works that might in some way help the very acute unemployment situation now existing throughout the Dominion. As instances of these greatly reduced expenditures, I may point out that last year the vote for public [Mr. Duff.]

buildings in Manitoba was \$382,600, while this year it is only \$81,700—less than one quarter of last year's vote. And so on all down the line, less is to be spent this year, which means that the unemployment situation is going to be made worse by the action of the government; that is, the greater the economy practised on government expenditures, the more people are going to be thrown out of employment. Can the minister furnish any information as to the expenditures on public works for the ensuing year on capital account which might assist instead of aggravating the unemployment situation?

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): Mr. Chairman, in reply to the hon. gentleman, I can only say that the program of expenditures, either on capital or income account, is fully disclosed in these estimates. The total capital expenditure proposed for this fiscal year, is \$3,387,000, as shown on page 30, the details of which are there given. As to money voted last year not having been expended, it may interest the committee to know that the expenditures on public works last year were the largest in our history. These are the figures:

Total Expenditures	
1930-31 . . . . .	\$32,758,065
1929-30 . . . . .	25,206,558
1928-29 . . . . .	20,680,902
1927-28 . . . . .	17,309,702
1926-27 . . . . .	13,750,952

Hon. members will observe that the program last year was a very heavy one indeed. In addition to those expenditures, it must be borne in mind that \$20,000,000 was expended for unemployment relief. This amount added to the other figures that I have given, shows a grand total for last year of \$52,000,000, which is very much in excess of the total expenditure in any previous year.

Sir EUGENE FISET: I think if the minister would give the committee the amount not expended his statement would be better understood.

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): I am giving the actual expenditures, which is the information I thought was asked for.

Sir EUGENE FISET: The minister is giving the actual amount provided for in the estimates last year, \$32,000,000.

Mr. STEWART (Leeds): I am sorry that I have not made myself clear to my hon. friend. I should perhaps have given the amount appropriated and then stated the expenditure. The total amount appropriated was \$38,074,727.

Sir EUGENE FISET: On capital account?