

ville, West Huron, South Ontario and West Elgin, where it has been proved that under the local authorities and local management the grossest frauds and iniquities that the human mind could conceive, have been perpetrated, in order to carry them. These are the results of having local lists. Then we were to have "no gerrymandering." This Senate put a stop to the attempt to gerrymander which was made, if gerrymander it might be called. It was an abortion in the manner of readjusting the Redistribution Act. Then Sir Richard says:

There is simply no single one of these objects which the Liberal party have not been fighting for, moving resolutions for, and doing their very best to obtain any time during the last twenty years.

I do not propose to elaborate that portion of the subject further. The hon. gentleman said a few moments ago that one of the reasons for the large expenditures this year was the necessities of and the growing trade of the country. Expenditure is growing to such an extent that it is unparalleled in any past history. I should like to ask him whether the expenditure of a large amount of money in the construction of wharfs on Lake St. John, some couple of hundreds of miles north of Quebec, is in the interest of the trade of this country, whether it is necessary, whether it is anything more than an appropriation for private parties who own one or two steamboats on that lake? There is no trade there to justify it. Was it necessary to incur an expenditure, or try to incur an expenditure of \$70,000 to build a wharf down in Gaspé in order to induce the present member for that constituency to withdraw his resignation?

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—Hear, hear.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—And that too at a place where there is no water. I am informed by those who know the locality well, that you might spend hundreds of thousands of dollars, and then would have to go miles out into the sea before you could reach a depth of water sufficient to enable the seagoing vessels to land at that wharf. Then there is an appropriation which I look upon as one of the most iniquitous in all the public appropriations that could possibly be conceived. Any one who has been up the Richelieu River and visited the island called Ileaux Noix, made famous in Parkman's history and in the history of our country, as the spot where fortifications were erected

during the American war. No one lives on that island except the caretaker, and he is there to look after the old fortifications which are going to ruin and decay, I know when I was Minister of Militia I visited, with the General, that part of Canada. The island lies nearly in the centre of the Richelieu River and not far from the United States boundary line, and an invading force coming down that river would have to pass this island, and hence in the old days, even the Indians fortified it to protect themselves against other tribes. The government have handed over the old fortifications to a yacht club, who have turned it into a pleasure resort, where the members go to spend their leisure hours. I do not see any objection in that. It used to cost the country something to keep those fortifications from falling down. I know the old pensioner appealed to me to increase his pay while I was there. He was only getting twenty-five cents a day in addition to his pension to look after the fortification. When I came home I doubled it, as I thought fifty cents a day was little enough for the service. Now, what have the government done? The island has passed out of the hands of the government, and they are now actually appropriating a large sum of money for the construction of a wharf on that island for the accommodation of the Montreal and St. John Yacht Clubs. Is that an appropriation in the interest of the great and growing trade of this country? I could go on for an hour, if necessary, and point out such appropriations. The Minister of Finance has himself taken \$20,000 or \$30,000 for wharfs and improvements in his own constituency in Nova Scotia, besides railway subsidies. That gentleman had no seat in Parliament. It was necessary for him to secure a seat in the House of Commons to hold his office, and the then member, Mr. Forbes, magnanimously retired and took an office at \$50 a year. However, he was not long until he got a judgeship, and he is now living on the income derived from that. These are appropriations which the hon. gentleman says are necessary for the development and encouragement of the trade of the country. It will be for the people to say whether they are or not. There is another item to which I shall allude. My hon. friend from Prince Edward Island knows the particulars as well or better than I do. There is a United States firm who have