

war is over they have the idea of returning to the farm. Perhaps they have reached more advanced years and for that, or for some other very good reason they feel they should return to farm work. In doing so they are no longer eligible, as farmers, for the benefits of unemployment insurance, and yet have no hope of recovery of the contributions they have made.

I have had certain representations made to me in that connection. I believe I have been able to satisfy these people that they are in the same position as people who carry fire insurance on their buildings. Those people feel they are most fortunate if they do not suffer loss from a fire. If those who were so employed were in a position to avoid unemployment, they made a contribution to something worth while for their less fortunate fellow citizens. Nevertheless these people feel they are being called upon to make a contribution from which they receive no benefit, inasmuch as when they return to their farms they cannot make the claim that they are unemployed.

The other group which comes to mind is that of graduate registered nurses who, I understand, are not eligible for benefits. Yet, Trans-Canada Air Lines employs graduate nurses to perform the duties of stewardesses, and while so employed I understand they make contributions to the unemployment insurance fund. When they leave the employ of Trans-Canada Air Lines, either through marriage or through returning to their former occupation, I should like to know how they can claim unemployment insurance. If they marry and leave Trans-Canada Air Lines they are not eligible; and if for any other reason they have resigned and returned to their former occupations they find that as nurses they are not eligible. Their feeling is that they have made contributions from which they receive no benefits upon their return to their normal professions.

It is with those groups in mind I have referred briefly to the disabilities under which some people feel they suffer. I am thinking of insurance in its broadest sense. When one thinks of life insurance he thinks of a type of insurance from which at some time, sooner or later, someone benefits. The individual himself can benefit during his lifetime, in accordance with the contributions he has made, from purchasing endowment insurance. If he has whole life insurance his heirs will benefit. With this type of unemployment insurance, contributions are being made, and a great deal of administrative detail would be involved if it were worked out in the practical sense I

[Mr. Case.]

have suggested. However the individual receives no benefit, and neither does his estate if an insured person dies.

So in that sense I have compared unemployment insurance with fire insurance in the sense that a man who has paid fire insurance and has suffered no loss from fire has received no benefits beyond the protection he has had during that time. Unemployment insurance can be looked upon in the same way. It is true that the insured person may receive no benefit beyond the protection afforded during his lifetime.

While listening to other hon. members I have taken note of the vast proportions of the bill, and have concluded it would be wise if the minister would accept the suggestion that the bill be referred to the committee on industrial relations, where it might be more carefully reviewed, and returned to the house in a form in which we might discuss it.

The main theme of my remarks I have already covered, and when the minister speaks I should be pleased if he would refer to the points I have raised, namely those who are classified as temporary help, those who have returned to the farm, and registered nurses.

Mr. GLEASON BELZILE (Rimouski): Mr. Speaker, I offer no excuse for speaking in French, because I had only a short time to collect a few notes on the subject. I believe the French language is supposed to be understood fairly well throughout the house, and for that reason I shall discuss the subject in my native language.

(Translation): Under section 4 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1940, the administration of that legislation was entrusted to the commission. It had been deemed accessory that the commission should be an autonomous body and that it should be granted full administrative powers.

Under section 96 of the act, all reports, recommendations and submissions required to be made by the commission to the governor in council, must be submitted through the minister. In other words, the commission is not responsible to the minister as regards the administration of the act, and the minister is merely a link between parliament and the commission.

On September 4, 1942, order in council No. 7994 was passed; the minister was thereby entrusted with the full administration of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1940, as well as with the application of the National Selective Service regulations, the staff and the offices of the commission being placed under the jurisdiction of the department. That order in council lapsed on April 1, 1946.