

*By the Chairman:*

Q. I know some years ago you made an investigation, Mr. Falk, as to the numbers which drifted back to the cities, and the reasons. I wonder if you could recall the proportions?—A. I can recall them pretty definitely. In 1915, just after the War started, there was an enormous number of unemployed in Winnipeg. I was detailed off from my work to work among the unemployed foreigners, I got so tired of handing out relief to city men. Ninety-four per cent of these people had come from the Old Country, and had either owned, leased or worked as labourers on farms, and came to the country with the intention of farming. The only reason they got sidetracked was that they understood there was a chance here to get employment at good wages, and they had been induced to speculate in real estate. About half way through the investigation we thought we would try and get a holding company organized in the city, to get them out on homesteads which most of them actually had in the country. We took only those who had a sufficient equity on the assessed value of the land to enable them, in the opinion of Mr. J. Bruce Walker and Mr. W. J. Black, who was at that time at the Agricultural College, and myself and others, to get back, and it could have been done if we could have got somebody to take over their homes. Ninety-four per cent of those men had done nothing but work on farms, except a little bit of carpentering on their own homes; they had come to the country to farm, but had got sidetracked in the city.

*By Miss Macphail:*

Q. The way to get at that is, to get at the problems of agriculture in the country. If we are going to attract immigrants, we had better tackle the problems that confront life in the country?—A. You have to make things socially attractive in the country so that the man who has had a pub right around the corner will not be lonely there.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. Do you suggest that there should be a few more pubs?—A. No, I do not, but when you put people on quarter sections, where there is no social life for them until they can afford radios and things of that kind, you see what they are up against.

*By Mr. Neill:*

Q. In England they have the pubs open on Sunday?—A. Mr. Chairman, if I may continue on the question of unemployment insurance, I feel very strongly that unemployment insurance will be very difficult to operate in this country, but is desirable for this reason, which is perhaps the most important. I do not believe that until the employers of labour have to contribute something they will take full cognizance of the importance of unemployment insurance in relation to labour. You can waive the humanitarian aspect of it, if you want to, but I believe that the basis of industrial efficiency and the maintenance of actual effectiveness of the worker is that we must pay attention to these problems.

Q. It would be cheaper?—A. It would be cheaper. I would like to be allowed to quote from the summary of an article by Mr. Henry S. Dennison on the subject of unemployment relief. The Dennison Manufacturing Company was an industry which was very seasonal in its character; the demand of the public made it seasonal in character. A Commission came out from the Old Country to enquire into conditions in Canada and the United States, in 1926, and the report was published in 1927. These are Mr. Dennison's words: