

Mr. STIRLING: Will the deputy directors to whom the hon. gentleman referred remain resident in their own countries and be contact points for Governor Lehman, or will they come and live in Washington and do their work there?

Mr. CLAXTON: That will depend entirely on their functions. In the case of Mr. Van Gelder and the others having to do with either survey of requirements or provision of supplies or administration or personnel or finance, they will be located at Washington, but the deputy director generals engaged in the survey of requirements, such as Sir Frederick Leith Ross, will be located in London, and there will be others located in various countries in Europe when it is possible for them to get there. Similarly in the far east, their locality will depend on their functions. At the present time the majority of the senior personnel as of other personnel administration are located at Washington.

Mr. ROSE: There have been disquieting rumours to the effect that the military authorities have been holding back UNRRA from going into action. A few months ago I heard that they were told to go to the far east and to leave Europe alone. These statements may be only rumours, but they are going around and people believe them, and perhaps they have reason to believe them. Certain military leaders have said, "After we are finished with our military activities you people can step in." Well, that may be a long time, and in the meantime the situation in Italy has proved that if UNRRA had gone in the first place, instead of leaving it to Amgot to look after feeding and supplying the people with the necessities of life, the situation in Italy might have been better.

Disquieting rumours are going around even to the effect that some of those belonging to UNRRA have become quite pessimistic. I am not making this statement because I am opposed to what UNRRA intends to do. In fact, we should all welcome every measure that is brought forward to help the people of Europe to rehabilitate themselves. Our own prosperity depends to a large extent upon what happens there. If there are people who are holding back UNRRA from going into action, it will be necessary for the government of Canada to speak up and to protest against those elements that tend to retard things.

There was a disquieting editorial in the *Toronto Star* in which it was said that the meeting of UNRRA which was to have taken

place at the Seignior club would not be held there for reasons of anti-Semitism and consequently they had to go elsewhere.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Nonsense.

Mr. ROSE: I am quoting from the *Toronto Star*. This appeared in an editorial. I am glad to hear that it is not so, though, as I say, I am quoting from that newspaper.

I have read of the history of the Hoover commission and it seems to me that they got entangled in the political situation in Europe, with unfortunate results, because quite often, instead of supplying food to those who were in need, they devoted their attention to those elements that formed reactionary movements in Europe. I suggest that we should have progressive, broad-minded leadership in this matter so as to avoid political interference on the part of UNRRA in Europe.

There are many more problems in connection with UNRRA which I should like to discuss, but I will leave it to a later stage. We are all interested in these questions. For instance, there is the problem of UNRRA in relation to the Ribar and Tito Assembly in Yugoslavia. We must look upon that as a very serious matter, and then again there is the problem of UNRRA in relation to certain sections of China, especially in the area controlled by the Fourth and Eighth Route armies. There is a good deal of suffering there, although these people fight against a substantial part of the Japanese army. They are not getting medical or any other relief from the Chungking government. These are all matters that will have to be discussed when the bill is presented.

Mr. CLAXTON: I should like to answer some of the remarks made by the hon. member for Cartier (Mr. Rose). He has referred to certain rumours and I think I should deal with them. In the first place he mentioned the failures to go to the Seignior club to hold the meeting there, on the ground that the club did not admit people of the Jewish faith. I can say at once that there is not a word of truth in that rumour. I was present with the representatives of UNRRA when they interviewed representatives of the Canadian Pacific hotels in Montreal, and when we spoke about the Seignior club they said it was out of the question because the premises could not accommodate a meeting of that size. No other reason was given, and if you appreciated the size of the conference and contemplated the demand for meeting rooms, you would recognize at once that the Seignior club is not a suitable place. The Windsor hotel was chosen because it had suitable accommodation.