

Supply—Labour

that there is a demand for them by the farmers, and by people who need domestics, and in other lines of endeavour, right across the dominion. That is the best yardstick that I know of.

Mr. Thatcher: I must say that I cannot agree with the hon. member for Huron North. Our experience in Saskatchewan has been almost uniformly good with these d.p.'s. Many farmers have asked me this question: "How can we get some of these men to help us?" If there is one feature of any governmental policy that I can agree with, it has been their bringing in of these farm workers. I think it was sensible. I think it was wise. I have only one suggestion to offer the minister, and through him the government. I wish they would extend this program a little further and allow our Canadians of German descent to bring in their relatives from Germany. In the past, Canada's experience has been that the German people usually have made the best possible settlers. They have made good agriculturists. I think we are missing a bet if we do not take advantage of the huge pool of manpower in Germany at the present time. I can see the Chairman getting ready to call me to order. I wish I had ten or fifteen minutes to talk about the matter.

The Deputy Chairman: The hon. member is under a misapprehension.

Mr. Thatcher: Good. I feel rather strongly on this issue. Many people may not agree with me but I do believe that Canada is overlooking a source of future citizens, a source of immigration, by keeping out Germans, particularly those who have relatives in this country. Naturally they will have to be carefully screened. We do not want nazis. But we are in the process of building a nation, and the manpower that we choose today is going to determine, to some extent at least, the kind of nation we shall have in the future.

There are many hon. members in this house who are of German descent. Almost uniformly they have been good citizens. I could name I suppose eight or ten members in the house who are of German descent. I think most hon. members will agree that they have made a pretty good contribution. There are many reasons why we should change our present policy towards Germans.

Mr. Mitchell: The hon. member should direct his remarks to the Minister of Mines and Resources. He is speaking of immigration; I am speaking of d.p.'s.

Mr. Thatcher: I must bow to that. I was afraid I would be called out of order. However, I have to go home tonight and I thought I should get it on the record.

[Mr. Mitchell.]

Mr. Bater: I know that hon. members have their eyes on the clock. It is just about four minutes to six. I can promise the committee that I shall take not more than two or three minutes. I want to go on record and say that over the past few years it has been my privilege to be a member of the dominion-provincial farm labour committee in Saskatchewan. I want to take this opportunity to commend the government and the minister for the assistance that has been given not only during the war but in the post-war period. This work should be continued. I have a lot of figures that I shall not mention. I will not even look at them. We in the west have appreciated the assistance that has been given in bringing harvesters out to help us with our crops. Many men in my constituency and in the district where I live have come down to Ontario to help in the hay harvest. Not only did they help to harvest the hay but they learned of the problems of the farmers of Ontario. That in itself had a great deal to do with bringing the east and the west together. We have sent people of British Columbia to help to pick fruit. Many of the Metis, commonly known as half-breeds, in my constituency have gone into Alberta to help to take up the sugar beets. They have gone across the line and helped to take up the sugar beets there. This particular item is one that should be very carefully guarded and carried out in the future.

Item agreed to.

Unemployment Insurance Act, 1940—

157. Administration, including expenditures incurred in connection with the activities of the national employment service as delegated by the Minister of Labour in accordance with section 88 of the act, \$19,645,631.

Mr. Knowles: Mr. Chairman, there are a number of points that one might talk about with respect to unemployment insurance, but I shall deal with only one at this time. I want to say at the outset that the hon. member for Cape Breton South expressed our views when he said that this was essentially good legislation to have on the statute books, and any suggestions that we make for improving it do not detract from that view.

I propose to deal with just one of the changes that could be made. I shall review it briefly because I have done it on a number of occasions. I am sure I need only to outline my contention to remind the Minister of Labour of the various points in the argument. It has to do with the case of a worker who becomes unemployed, qualifies for unemployment insurance benefits, and then while drawing those benefits becomes ill. As the minister knows, in that situation the worker's unemployment insurance benefits are cut off