

Hon. Mr. CALDER: I submit that the situation should be faced in another way; that the responsibility does not lie upon those people at all.

Hon. Mr. HAYDON: May I ask my honourable friend if the responsibility has not rested on those people in past years? And has not the drift to the cities been going on during most of the twenty-year period which he mentioned?

Hon. Mr. CALDER: There have been many times when the provinces have had to come to the aid of municipalities, as all honourable senators know. Will honourable gentlemen opposite tell me—I should like a straight answer from my honourable friend from Parkdale (Hon. Mr. Murdock)—that notwithstanding the existing situation in Canada the Federal Government should not help to relieve unemployment?

Hon. Mr. BELAND: When my honourable friend refers to unemployment in a large territory around a city—Quebec, for example—has he in mind people who were formerly engaged in a mill or factory, or farmers who are for the time being out of work?

Hon. Mr. CALDER: I refer to people of all classes who are out of employment. Some of the unemployed were formerly working on farms, some in mines, and some in the woods. As I have pointed out with regard to Winnipeg, people who are not ordinary residents of that city drift there from a large area. Now, may I ask a pointed question of the honourable gentleman who put a question to me (Hon. Mr. Haydon)? Does he say that, notwithstanding the existing situation, the Government of Canada should sit still and do nothing?

Hon. Mr. BELCOURT: Nobody has said that.

Hon. Mr. HAYDON: I think that the real question is this: have the municipalities and the provinces fulfilled all their obligations?

Hon. Mr. CALDER: That was exactly the point that was raised by my honourable friend from Parkdale (Hon. Mr. Murdock) when he asked a question of the Minister of Labour.

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: I beg my honourable friend's pardon.

Hon. Mr. CALDER: Pardon me. My honourable friend asked the Minister of Labour to produce documents showing which provinces and municipalities had asked for assistance.

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: That is it.

Hon. Mr. CALDER: I ask my honourable friend, does he, knowing the situation as he must know it, say that in the absence of such documents the Federal Government should not assist in relieving the existing unemployment situation?

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: I say unqualifiedly that the Government should assist when the provinces and municipalities ask it to assist.

Hon. Mr. CALDER: In other words, my honourable friend takes the ground that if there are not sufficient documents on file from the provinces and municipalities asking for assistance, the Federal Government should do nothing at all? I may say that I do not know what documents are on file.

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: My honourable friend (Hon. Mr. Robertson) says there are documents, and I am ready to take his word. But I should like to see the documents myself, because my honourable friend and I may not read them the same way.

Hon. Mr. CALDER: But does my honourable friend insist that the documents should be there before relief is granted?

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: I should like to see the documents.

Hon. Mr. CALDER: But does my honourable friend insist that the documents should be there before the Federal Government takes any action to relieve the unemployment situation? I understand the ground taken by my honourable friend is that the responsibility in the present situation rests primarily upon the municipalities and then upon the provinces, and that in the absence of requests from municipalities and provinces the Federal Government should do nothing?

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: Yes.

Hon. Mr. CALDER: My honourable friend agrees with that?

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: Yes.

Hon. Mr. CALDER: You still insist upon that?

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: Yes; but, if my honourable friend will pardon me, I think that the Federal Government got the cart before the horse, and started the agitation for relief.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. CALDER: My honourable friend says that the Federal Government put the cart before the horse. Now, speaking seriously, everybody knows that we have not had in Canada for many years such a serious unemployment situation as we now have.