

political gain. In fact I doubt very much whether it produces political gain. I have an idea that in the provincial election in New Brunswick last fall the government of the day lost hundreds of votes by the way in which they attempted to handle this relief proposition. I have no doubt that it reacted against them, because people resent being led to the polls. There is a certain element of coercion, and fear may be inspired.

Let me give an illustration, not of abuse of relief money, but of the way in which provincial governments treat moneys sent them by this government. I was surprised to learn the other day that some thousands of dollars had been sent out to the various provinces by the Department of Pensions and National Health for air raid precautions. The sum of \$5,000 was allocated to New Brunswick. If anything substantial was to have been done in that regard, of course \$5,000 would be a very small amount, even for the seaport city of Saint John. But all the money that ever was spent for air raid precautions in the city of Saint John was spent by the municipality itself, and as far as I have been able to ascertain—I speak subject to correction, because we do not want to be dogmatic about these matters—not one dollar of that \$5,000 was spent for air raid precautions. If it has not been spent the money ought to be returned to the dominion treasury. It is not under the minister's department, and when the appropriate minister comes with his estimates I am going to ask him about this, but it illustrates the principle for which I am contending. If it is not checked up, that money will just go into the consolidated revenue fund of the province, a contribution from this dominion to the province, never expended and never returned.

Would the minister during the dinner recess give some consideration to the two points I have raised, namely the question of what arrangements have been or are being made or negotiated with the provinces, and the question of a check-up on the expenditure? I know he will agree with me one hundred per cent in respect of the principle which I am advocating.

Mr. MacNICOL: Section 3 provides:

The governor in council may enter into agreements:

(b) with corporations or partnerships or individuals engaged in industry respecting the expansion of industrial employment.

If the minister has the information, would he give the committee an outline of what it is proposed to do under paragraph (b), particularly in reference to Ontario? I notice on

page 6 of the report of the dominion commission of unemployment relief under the 1939 act, in reference to Ontario, under the heading "Rehabilitation of older unemployed," it speaks of agricultural training, training in skilled trades and industrial occupations. Then on page 12, in reference to Ontario, the statement is that for the rehabilitation of higher age people, \$27,500 was spent. The minister should tell us how that money was spent, how they were rehabilitated, if it means rehabilitating men who were mechanics but who through unemployment, had perhaps lost the finesse of their trade, and if so, how that money was applied to industry under paragraph (b).

Mr. McLARTY: I shall be glad to. But I may point out that many questions have been asked that I would be much freer to answer on the estimates, if that is satisfactory.

Mr. MacNICOL: I do not want to press it.

Mr. McLARTY: I shall be glad to give the information.

At six o'clock the committee took recess.

After Recess

The committee resumed at eight o'clock.

Mr. McLARTY: The hon. member for Davenport asked a question as to what is being done with regard to the development of technical schools in Ontario, and elsewhere throughout Canada. In that connection I shall make a statement which, I believe, will cover the matter rather fully.

Arrangements have been made in eight provinces for the use of the vocational shops in technical schools during the summer vacation period. These shops will be used to provide instruction in occupations connected with industries engaged in war contract work and will be devoted chiefly to machine-shop, sheet-metal work, moulding, welding, production workers for aircraft manufacturing and, where there is a demand, motor mechanics and wood working.

The minimum age of admission is sixteen years, and at the outset a large proportion of the trainees will be drawn from the students in the senior years of the technical schools. Older men will also be admitted to these courses, provided they have had some previous experience in the trade for which training is desired.

The technical schools' facilities are being placed at the disposal of the government without charge for rental or depreciation as