

was distinctly not theirs. They did that work excellently. There was no eight hour day about their work, and they were glad to make that contribution to the general welfare of the people of Canada.

I would add to that another word of commendation of the superintendent staffs who actually came into contact with the men themselves in those camps all over Canada. The men on these staffs were recruited to a general extent through the assistance of the Engineering Institute of Canada and of the engineering associations throughout the provinces. Some few of them had been accustomed to work of this description, construction work, handling men in camps, but the majority of them had not, and had it to learn. There also the work they had to do was not in every case pleasant. It was pleasant handling the camps where the men were appreciative of what the taxpayer of Canada was doing for them and were ready to work, but it was anything but pleasant in those camps into which subversive elements had obtruded, and the difficulties of the superintendent staffs were enormously increased not only by insulting behaviour but in some cases by bodily harm. I myself know of cases where superintendents have taken the younger men in the camps aside and endeavoured to advise them, cautioned them, warned them, and have done so effectively. Those superintendents drawn from all over Canada and used all over Canada were men from various walks of life who adapted themselves to this operation, and to whom also I consider that a public word of thanks is well due.

Mr. BENNETT: Hear, hear.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Mr. Chairman, I think I can, in a very few words, by drawing attention to sections which appear in the respective acts, point out the difference between the legislation which the government is introducing at the moment with respect to relief and the legislation which hon. gentlemen opposite introduced in previous sessions. In the section which we are at the moment discussing there appear the following words:

The governor in council may out of moneys appropriated by parliament authorize the execution of such works and undertakings—

Et cetera. No such words as "appropriated by parliament" are to be found in the legislation which was introduced by hon. gentlemen opposite during the preceding four or five sessions of the former parliament. Instead there appeared something which read like section 5 of the Relief Act of 1935 which is as follows:

The governor in council may pay out of the consolidated revenue fund such moneys as may be necessary for all or any of the purposes of this act.

In other words, the legislation which the present government is asking the house to adopt restores and preserves the control of the House of Commons and indeed of parliament over expenditures on public works required for the purposes of relief. The legislation of hon. gentlemen opposite removed that control altogether and gave to the governor in council the power to take out of the consolidated revenue fund moneys, not which parliament had agreed upon as necessary and had appropriated, but such moneys as the governor in council of its own volition decided to take.

Then coming to the next section of the legislation being introduced at the present time, section 4, subsection 2, which relates to agreements with the provinces, we find the following:

No agreement entered into under the provisions of this section shall be binding upon the dominion until approved by resolution of the House of Commons.

That is, agreements between the provinces and the dominion with respect to relief. There, again, whatever is done is subject to the approval of this House of Commons. Nothing corresponding to that section will be found in the legislation which hon. gentlemen opposite introduced during the years they were in office. Instead there appeared the following words which appear in section 2 of the relief act of 1935 or something similar thereto:

Notwithstanding the provisions of any statute or law the governor in council may, upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon,—enter into agreements with any of the provinces,

Et cetera. Not agreements subject to the approval of the House of Commons, but any agreements which the governor in council might decide to make. Section 3 of the Relief Act of 1935 reads as follows:

In addition to the powers conferred under the provisions of any statute or law the governor in council may, when parliament is not in session, take all such measures as in his discretion may be deemed necessary or advisable to maintain, within the competence of parliament, peace, order and good government throughout Canada.

That gave to the governor in council power to legislate upon any subject which the governor in council might assert came under the heading of peace, order and good government. Then section 4 of the same act reads as follows: