

various types of skilled labour available? Do they advertise at all in the daily press in order to notify employers that they have available men of the type referred to a short time ago by the hon. member for St. Lawrence-St. George.

Mr. ROGERS: I do not believe they advertise.

Mr. MASSEY: They do in some centres.

Mr. ROGERS: They may in some centres; that would be entirely a matter of provincial administration, as to whether money was available for that purpose. But apart from that, as my hon. friend knows, all employment offices have a bulletin service, and to some extent that meets the need.

Mr. MASSEY: On page 32 of the final report of the national employment commission these words appear:

The national employment commission feels, however, that it would be failing in its responsibilities if it did not record its opinion, formed out of its experience with problems of unemployment and "relief" that since the dominion government has already invited the cooperation of the provinces to achieve a national system of unemployment insurance it would be in the interests of sound and economical administration that a unified and coordinated system of nationally administered unemployment insurance, unemployment aid and employment service be instituted.

That would seem to me a recommendation that all these employment offices be placed under federal control. Would the minister care to state to the committee whether he personally feels that that should be done?

Mr. ROGERS: I believe I have already stated—

Mr. MASSEY: In a particular way, I mean.

Mr. ROGERS: —to the committee that I can see many advantages in having a national employment service, but I do not believe one can answer that question without regard to the control of other industrial conditions which now lies within provincial jurisdiction. I refer particularly to the fact that under our federal distribution of powers the provinces are in effective control of working hours and conditions; and in fact the provinces generally are in more constant contact with industry than is the dominion. That recommendation of the national employment commission was made in such a way as to indicate clearly that in the future if we had a national system of unemployment insurance we could have an effective national employment service. It is generally agreed that with a national system

[Mr. Massey.]

of unemployment insurance, and the employment service that would be established as a corollary of unemployment insurance, there would be established a continuing contact between the employment service and industry in a way which would not occur otherwise. I do not see that the dominion could establish an effective employment service without at the same time having either a national system of unemployment insurance or a control over other industrial conditions.

Mr. MASSEY: In connection with the suggestion recently made to various provinces for an unemployment insurance plan, was it suggested that the unemployment services be given over to the dominion, or was that assumed to be the case?

Mr. ROGERS: In the original letter—and I am speaking from recollection—the reference was to unemployment insurance, and to employment offices as a necessary corollary of unemployment insurance. But in the letter which referred to the constitutional amendment the reference was rather to unemployment insurance. However, it was the opinion of the law officers of the crown that with the power to deal with unemployment insurance there would be no question as to the power to set up employment services.

Mr. BENNETT: Ancillary to it.

Mr. ROGERS: Yes, employment services ancillary to it.

Mr. TAYLOR (Nanaimo): It must be recognized that these placements are costing the dominion government a considerable sum. In 1937 the placement of 389,000 cost forty cents a placement. That is a big item, and unless the minister is perfectly satisfied that the organization is really doing good work it seems to me it is very costly. There must be some better way by which placements can be effected.

Mr. ROGERS: I suppose it is a matter of opinion as to whether or not a service is costly, when it means an expenditure of forty cents per placement. I would not agree with the hon. member in that regard. I have not compared the figures in connection with unemployment services with other countries, but I would feel that a cost of forty cents per placement was not by any means excessive.

Mr. GREEN: In what way are young men and women receiving youth training helped by the employment agencies? Is there any tie-up which enables the agencies to help these young people?

Mr. ROGERS: Perhaps that question might better be reserved until we discuss an item