

Unemployment Relief

morrow or at any other time. Moreover, as the Chief Electoral Officer is reporting to you, Mr. Speaker, I might suggest just in order that it may not be necessary for myself or my hon. friend to go and inspect these documents, that you, immediately ask the Chief Electoral Officer to report to you and send you a copy of all that he has done in this matter.

Mr. SPEAKER: If it be the pleasure of the House, I shall communicate immediately to the Chief Electoral Officer the remarks made by the hon. member for West Calgary (Mr. Bennett), and by the Minister of Justice (Mr. Lapointe), and await, not his pleasure, but his answer.

Right Hon. ARTHUR MEIGHEN (Leader of the Opposition): May I suggest, Mr. Speaker, in that connection that you direct his special attention to the evidently loose manner in which the ballots are being printed, which seems to me to be more prolific of possible danger later than any other feature of the message.

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF

RESOLUTION OF WINNIPEG CITY COUNCIL

On the Orders of the Day:

Hon. ROBERT ROGERS (South Winnipeg): Before the orders of the day are called I would like to direct the attention of the government to a matter of urgent public importance, as set out in a resolution passed by the city council of the city of Winnipeg reading as follows:

Whereas it has been necessary for the city of Winnipeg to assist a large number of its residents, destitute due to unemployment during the last three winters, and to give similar relief during the present winter, in which action it has been and is being assisted by the government of the province of Manitoba;

And whereas such destitute persons have found themselves in this condition due to unemployment through national problems beyond power of local control or correction, some of which causes are summarized as follows:

1. Winnipeg, due to its geographical situation, is the focal point to which the unemployed of western Canada are attracted.

2. Coming to Winnipeg of ex-service men who have been settled on farms by the Soldiers' Settlement Board which they have found necessary to abandon.

3. Persons settling in Winnipeg who were brought to Canada through the activities of the federal government for agricultural purposes, but who proved unfit for farm life.

4. Ex-service men, engaged in farming before the war, who became so unsettled by army life that they did not return to agricultural pursuits after demobilization;

For the foregoing and other reasons these persons should be considered as "Dominion citizens at large" and the re-establishing of them should be considered as a federal problem and the cost of their maintenance a federal government charge.

[Mr. Lapointe.]

And whereas conventions have been held at Ottawa in 1922 and again in 1924, at the invitation of the federal government, which conventions unanimously adopted resolutions agreeing that unemployment relief expenditure should be met in part by the federal government;

Be it therefore resolved:

That the city council of the city of Winnipeg, hereby requests the federal government to assist the city of Winnipeg in dealing with unemployment relief during the present winter by agreeing to bear a percentage of the cost, and further to appoint a federal government representative or, representatives to review the expenditure incurred by the city of Winnipeg during the three winters just passed, with a view to arriving, on an equitable basis, at the amount of the expenditures the federal government will reimburse the city for.

And that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the federal government, members of parliament for the city of Winnipeg, the leader of the opposition of the House of Commons, and the leader of the Progressive party of the House of Commons, respectfully urging compliance with this request.

And that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the legislative assembly of the province of Manitoba.

Hon. ERNEST LAPOINTE (Leader of the House): A copy of this resolution has been sent to the government, and I received it this morning. The matter will engage the attention of the government and probably it will be necessary to communicate with the legislature of Manitoba; but whatever decision is reached will be communicated to the House.

INQUIRY FOR RETURN

WALKERVILLE—ENSENADA WHISKEY SHIPMENT

On the Orders of the Day:

Mr. H. C. HOCKEN (Toronto West Centre): In the early part of the session of 1924, on May 5 of that year, I put a question on the order paper, which was passed as an order for a return, requesting the correspondence and other documents relating to a shipment of whiskey from Walkerville, Ontario, to a man named Watson, Ensenada, Mexico. I asked for those papers and also for the reasons for the cancellation of the bond. I would now ask the government whether they think any more time is necessary in order to prepare this return, and if it is possible for me to get it this year.

Hon. GEORGE H. BOIVIN (Minister of Customs and Excise): Mr. Speaker, if I understand the rules correctly, orders for return are carried over from session to session during the life of the same parliament, and an order for a return, if it is not laid on the table of the House in one session, should be laid on the table during the next session. This is a new parliament, and therefore since I entered the Department of Customs I have not looked up the orders for returns that were passed by the House and were not brought down; but as this matter has been particularly