

Mr. CASTLEDEN: At a recent dairy convention held in the city of Saskatoon an attempt was made to find a solution of what they termed the increasingly difficult labour situation on the dairy farms of Saskatchewan, and the delegates passed a resolution in regard to that matter. I noticed that at the same time the department was expected to move 1,000 workers from Saskatchewan to Ontario for some seasonal employment on Ontario farms, and I wondered what the situation was, because my information was that a serious farm labour shortage existed in Saskatchewan. The other question I wanted to ask was whether schoolteachers as such are granted exemptions if they ask for them?

Mr. MITCHELL: No. Perhaps I might answer my hon. friend's other question, with regard to a labour shortage. I said there was no general shortage. Of course it is quite possible that there may be a shortage of labour on the dairy farms; I think that is pretty general throughout Canada, but when I said there was no general shortage I had regard to the whole picture, not to any special branch of the industry.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: I had a case brought to my attention, of a man who was granted postponement on condition that he would move from his farm to another farm. He has been told to report to the employment office at Yorkton, which means that he must travel a distance of 130 miles. Is anything done in regard to that man's transportation, or does he have to go there as ordered at his own expense?

Mr. MITCHELL: We pay the cost of transportation from the employment office to the job.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: This man has to go from his home, which is at Hudson Bay Junction, to Yorkton to report, a matter of about 130 miles.

Mr. MITCHELL: He can report to the office by mail, of course.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: If he takes a job in the vicinity of Yorkton, does he have to pay his own fare to that job?

Mr. MITCHELL: This particular kind of transfer is new to me, but under the circumstances I should say that we would pay that man's transportation.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: I trust that will be so.

There is one other field about which I should like to inquire, namely, the men who are in our prisons. In the United States men of this kind are being employed in munitions works and they have done remarkably well.

In addition, I think there are certain types of men in our prisons at the present time who might be used to good advantage in the army. Of course there are some types who could not be so used, but I advocate that research be carried on in order to see what supply of men might be available there. With regard to the matter of teachers, I should think throughout the whole dominion there must be a shortage. I notice that in one issue of the *Western Producer* there are advertisements for 200 teachers. That situation will have a serious effect upon this country. People in the fields of social service and teaching are rendering particularly valuable service. I believe we could learn something in this connection from the old country, and I hope the adviser the minister has secured from Britain will give him some pointers in these matters. The vital need for the social work of these people in war time is not yet recognized in this country.

Mr. HANSELL: I do not want to hold up the item at all, but we are asked to vote to his majesty over two and a half billion dollars, and in view of that huge amount of money I think hon. members have a perfect right to air their grievances here. The minister has ventured to mention the great problem of coal and the national emergency which exists at the present time, and I was glad to hear him say that he will soon make a comprehensive announcement in this connection. He made a little pass at me when I said we might freeze in the meantime, by saying that, of course, that was an easy thing to say.

Mr. MITCHELL: My hon. friend will not freeze at this time of the year.

Mr. HANSELL: We may not freeze at this time of the year, but it takes a long time to get coal out of the ground or to increase production when the machinery is wearing out. I am not going to argue that point. Twice in the last few days the minister has made a rather significant statement, something we have all known for years. He said that Canada is not on a self-sustaining basis as far as the production of coal is concerned; in other words, she cannot produce enough for her own needs. The strange thing is that within Canada is to be found fourteen per cent of the world's coal deposits. I am not laying any blame at the door of the minister, but I should like him to answer a question, although I really do not expect an answer. Why is it when we have fourteen per cent of the world's coal deposits we do not produce enough coal for our own needs? I know it will be said that we have not the best grade of anthracite coal in Canada, but we have good coal that