

cooperative effort. To have a nation-wide cooperative effort we must secure representation from the various provinces and from the various major branches of employment throughout the dominion. That can be done through an advisory committee, and we hope to secure that type of representation through such a committee.

Mr. BETTS: Of organized labour?

Mr. ROGERS: Yes; organized labour obviously would be represented.

Mr. BETTS: The minister did not say so the other night.

Mr. ROGERS: There are several branches of organized labour in Canada. We have the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada, the All-Canadian Congress of Labour, and also the national Catholic unions, three separate organizations of labour, and I should say it would be appropriate that each of them should be represented on this advisory committee. There are other national organizations which have a keen interest in this problem. I might mention the National Construction Council which is interested in housing. There are organizations such as the women's institutes—

Mr. BETTS: Might I ask a question?

Mr. ROGERS: If my hon. friend will permit me—as a matter of fact I think he is bound to permit me—there are these organizations of a national character which have an interest in this problem which will come before this national employment commission. We hope to secure representation of these various organizations in order that the commission may have the benefit of their advice in conducting these several investigations, also in doing what to my mind is a very important part of the work, namely securing the cooperation of industry and commerce in this difficult task which lies before us.

Mr. BETTS: Now, will the minister allow me a question?

Mr. ROGERS: Certainly.

Mr. BETTS: The minister, then, is definitely undertaking that there will be three representatives of organized labour on this commission?

Mr. ROGERS: I said that there are three major organizations of labour in Canada, and I think I said that it would be proper that these should be represented upon this national advisory committee. The selection is a matter for the governor in council; I am not in a position to indicate here and now who will be upon this com-

mittee or what national organizations will be represented. But I expressed the view that there are certain organizations which, by reason of their experience and function in relation to this problem, would be entitled to consideration in the selection of the advisory committee. If I may satisfy my hon. friend in another direction, I cannot do better, in emphasizing the advantage of a committee of this kind, than quote the language used by his own leader in asking parliament to support the establishment of an advisory committee to the commission on employment and social insurance last year. I put these words to him, and I do so seriously, because I believe they represent precisely what we have in view in the establishment of this advisory committee. These are the words as reported at page 1060 of Hansard of February 21, 1935:

I earnestly ask the committee to think over very carefully the section in question, because I believe that if we can only make these sections really effective it may do much to induce people to take a voluntary interest in public service of the state, which is so characteristic and perhaps reaches its highest development in Great Britain. When I think of the reservoir from which they have to draw, the trained minds of men and women who are always ready and willing to give voluntary service to enable the state the more readily to discharge its duties—and I am amazed at times at the number of such committees and the number of men and women who are always prepared to assist the government of the day, and continuing to function even although there is a change of government—I am hopeful that this may be the beginning of some such attitude on the part of public spirited citizens in this country, and I know of no place in which public service could be better rendered than in giving effect to the provisions of these sections for the administration of this act.

The hon. member for London (Mr. Betts) appears to be suspicious of our good faith in proposing this advisory committee. I wish he could believe that it is possible to approach this question with a full sense of national obligation. I cannot say more than I have already said on a number of occasions as to my own approach to this problem. I am convinced that that approach is shared by many people throughout this country, and I have had ample evidence in the correspondence that has come to me in the Department of Labour of the interest of these organizations of which I speak in this entire question.

Mr. BETTS: I would be more ready to approach this problem with the desirable sense of national obligation to which the minister refers if he would answer this simple, direct question in simple, direct language: Will he throw his entire weight