

*Employment Commission*

complied with will be physical conditions in the matter of administration. I wonder if there are any other conditions which the minister had in mind when this clause was drafted?

Mr. ROGERS: At the present time the conditions, so far as they relate to grants in aid for direct relief, are set out in the order in council. They are very brief and perhaps I might place them on Hansard: They are:

(a) That the said grant will be used solely for the purpose above prescribed without any discrimination as to race, religious views or political affiliation of the recipients of the said relief;

(b) That in respect to the continuation of the dominion's measure for the relief of single homeless men, the province agrees to cooperate by complying with the conditions set forth in appendix 1 hereto attached;

I do not think there is any need of placing the appendix upon Hansard at this time. I continue:

(c) That the province will furnish to the dominion government on request, such statistical or other information in respect to said grant as may be required.

The province gives an undertaking that it accepts the dominion grants in aid for direct relief upon this basis.

Mr. BENNETT: What is the date of that order in council?

Mr. ROGERS: This is dated November, 1935.

Mr. BENNETT: That is the last one?

Mr. ROGERS: Yes.

Mr. BENNETT: They are all practically the same.

Mr. ROGERS: Yes.

Mr. BENNETT: For years before that.

Mr. ROGERS: Yes. It is quite conceivable that as the result of a further survey of the problem it may be found desirable to add further conditions to dominion grants in aid. The wording in the bill is not restricted. It will be for the national employment commission to study the matter and advise the government as to what conditions ought to be attached in the view of the commission. It will then be the responsibility of the government either to accept or to decline that advice.

Mr. PELLETIER: Could the minister tell us what is in the appendix to the order in council to which he referred?

Mr. ROGERS: The appendix has to do with single homeless men for whom the dominion government accepted responsibility in so far as they were in camps operated by the Department of National Defence.

[Mr. Pelletier.]

Mr. PELLETIER: Paragraph (b) of section 6 of the bill, reads:

(b) recommend to the minister conditions to be complied with by any province obtaining grants for relief purposes from the government of Canada.

No other possible meaning can be taken from that than what the minister has just said. It will be practically a physical supervisory condition that will be applied.

Mr. ROGERS: As I have said before, there is no restriction whatever upon the wording. The conditions may relate to administration; they may relate to a more effective supervision of expenditures, and they may even relate to some of the matters brought up by the hon. member for Vancouver North (Mr. MacNeil).

Mr. KINLEY: Reference has been made to balanced diets; if the minister would include fish in these diets he would be doing something to improve the health of those on relief as well as helping to relieve unemployment. I think the people who come from the maritimes show the effects of their splendid diet. They eat plenty of fish which is rich in protein. You can eat your fill of fish and still be streamlined as people like to be at the present time. We feel that the institutions of Canada and the relief camps should have fish upon their menus. Some years ago we found that no fish was being used in the penitentiaries in Canada. In the drought areas of Saskatchewan I believe the people suffer from diseases such as goitre; these people need iodine, which is present in fish. The minister might well see to it in the interests of unemployment relief and from the point of view of the health of these people that they receive more fish.

Mr. COLDWELL: I would remind the minister that in Saskatchewan in the drought areas they cannot catch fish, and fish is more or less a luxury. As a matter of fact, fish costs there per pound approximately twice as much as meat, and that really is a barrier to the use of fish to any considerable degree as a part of the diet. There is much to be said for the point of view of the hon. member for Vancouver North (Mr. MacNeil), and I have risen to emphasize it. There is the greatest discrepancy between relief schedules in many of the rural areas and those in the cities. I have travelled extensively in rural Saskatchewan and from my own observation I know that the people in those areas are to a large extent forgotten. I think the difficulty in connection with all our relief methods at the present time is that there are three parties to the agreement. It is true that the local