

that perhaps it is the best place in the country to go to get a job. That was the experience of the department up until quite recently that the average working man did not realize.

Mr. MCGREGOR: No, that has not been our experience because Mr. Bisson in his statement told you that the number of placements amounted to about 850,000 two years ago and it was now one million.

Now, the one million persons who were placed in employment must know about the National Employment Service. However, as part of the re-emphasis of the employment program one phase of it is that we will spend some amount on advertising National Employment Service to make certain that every unemployed and employable worker has all the facilities of the National Employment Service.

Mr. SPENCER: I have a general question. Am I correct in saying that the enforcement branch relates to the investigation of claims filed and the audit branch relates to the investigation of contributions by employers, is that right?

Mr. MCGREGOR: Yes.

Mr. SPENCER: Could I have the relative number of employees in each one of those branches?

Mr. BISSON: I think we can get that information for you. I have not it available at the moment.

Mr. COOPER: Mr. Chairman, is the board considering bringing farm labour under unemployment insurance? We are finding it difficult when we go to Saskatoon or Regina to hire farm labour. They will not go out to the farm for two reasons—first, they are hired for eight months and then harvest is over and they are laid off and they cannot collect unemployment insurance. Second is the Compensation Act. Is there any consideration given to bringing farm labour under those acts?

Mr. STARR: As far as the workmen's compensation acts are concerned they would be governed by provincial workmen's compensation.

Now, as to the first part of your question, "has any consideration been given to bringing farm labourers under the Unemployment Insurance Act", I would say, yes, we are giving it very, very serious consideration at the moment. A few years ago there was some antagonism on the part of farmers as regards coming under the Unemployment Insurance Act. However, this attitude has changed. The opposition which they displayed a few years ago and their attitude has also changed in that respect due mostly to the fact that the employer is unable to obtain suitable farm labour.

We are studying it as a whole and piecemeal. When I say piecemeal we are studying the possibilities of bringing in certain segments one at a time under the Unemployment Insurance Act.

Mr. COOPER: A few years ago they were opposed to this but now all the organizations including farm labour want to be brought into this.

Mr. STARR: Yes. We have had many representations with regard to including them.

Mr. MUIR (*Cape Breton North and Victoria*): While I realize there are individuals who will try to get ahead, to use that expression, of the Unemployment Insurance Commission, has there been occasions when someone, through no fault of their own, was paid benefits because of an error on the part of a member of the Unemployment Insurance Commission staff? I am speaking of a case where through no fault of the individual, but because of an error on the part of an official of the Unemployment Insurance Commission, the individual received benefits that he was not entitled to. What is the position in that event?