

Hon. Mr. GREGG: Most of them would be anchored to their little home-stead and would not be able to go out and obtain employment.

Mr. BRYCE: When they go out they take their caboose along with them. They go fifty, sixty or one hundred miles away from home.

Mr. MURCHISON: I think the minister was referring particularly to these fishermen who work on Lake Manitoba and Lake Winnipeg in the winter months who are engaged in insurable employment during the summer months of the year. It is my information that the great majority of them are, as you called them, crofters and they stay on their few acres and have cattle and so on.

Mr. BRYCE: They may have a little pasture and so on, but they are all around the lake.

Mr. HAHN: If they are farming are they available for employment?

Mr. BRYCE: They need two forms of occupation in order to obtain an existence. They would be working in agriculture and agriculture is not insurable up to the present time.

Mr. SMALL: It would be similar to the case of a man who could sell insurance, sell cars, and run a service station. You could classify him in that way, could you not? He might get an income from three or four different things.

Mr. MCGREGOR: It is a question as to whether or not he engages in other insurable employment and could use those contributions in order to make up his qualifications for benefit.

Mr. JOHNSTON (*Bow River*): The only way in which he could come under this would be if in the non-seasonable period he was employed in insurable employment.

Mr. MCGREGOR: If he was only engaged in fishing for eight or ten weeks it is likely he will contract out. But if he has any other insurable employment he will contract in, in order to give himself a sufficient number of contributions to qualify. In so far as contracting out is concerned, I think Mr. Barnett raised a question. We have had schools at every regional office and had all our local office people in attendance at those schools. They concluded two weeks ago. All the offices in fishing communities have had all the information. Furthermore, we are making broadcasts whenever we possibly can arrange them through our local managers on local stations. There will also be press releases urging all fishermen to register as soon as possible, and when they register they will receive one of these fisherman's handbooks. We are also working through the fisheries officers and they will disseminate this information as soon as they can. That is what has been done so far.

Mr. HAHN: Reverting to the question raised by Mr. Bryce, would the man registered as a fisherman not have to be available for some other form of employment? If asked he could not say "I am farming now". Would he receive the benefit of unemployment insurance while he was farming?

Mr. MCGREGOR: That would depend on the extent of his farming operations during the period he is claiming benefit. We would have to decide whether or not he is actually a worker or a farmer on his own account.

Mrs. FAIRCLOUGH: Is that not the same problem which you had in respect of the lumbermen?

Mr. MCGREGOR: Yes, to a great degree.

Mr. HAHN: As I understand it there were certain representations made by various unions and different organizations including the United Fishermen and Allied Workers. Are the regulations before us today the same as those which were discussed at that time?

Mr. MCGREGOR: Pretty well.