

In that work thousands of men could be given useful employment, beneficial to themselves and to the country as a whole. In Cochrane no direct relief was given to people who were not prevented from working by ill health; they were set to cut stove wood or to do road and street work. I believe the town of Timmins did the same. If the municipalities can carry out that principle, it can be applied even more readily by the central government. In this respect I am voicing the sentiments of my riding as expressed in the local press, regardless of political affiliations. With one voice they criticize what has been done under direct relief, and they are asking that as soon as possible the Canadian people in that section be given an opportunity to earn their living and not be mendicants.

The hon. minister mentioned the work that has been done on the trans-Canada airways. Last fall when this matter was mentioned during the preliminary session I praised the government for that work. Only a few days ago the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Sutherland) was kind enough to give me some information about that work. There again I believe the government is deserving of praise for the work done. But on our own section, the Hearst-Cochrane-Winnipeg division, we have not received the amount we expected, and for that reason many single men have not been able to find employment this winter. I realize that there are also almost insurmountable physical obstacles in proceeding with that undertaking, but I hope the work will be proceeded with early this year so that those single men in the urban and rural centres of northern Ontario will find useful occupation.

A few minutes ago the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre said he knew some sections of the country where the people on direct relief were not receiving medical attention. Again I must praise the government for having last summer in our section of the country inaugurated a system of providing medical attention to those in need in the organized and unorganized districts. On that score I think the government should be complimented. Some farmer settlers were not receiving the medical attention that they required. To-day I am glad to say that there is a wonderful improvement as far as my own section of the country is concerned.

Another matter that I want to bring to the attention of the minister is this; before I left home after the Christmas holidays, the provincial government sent a circular letter to the municipalities and towns to the effect that the doctors should not receive more than

\$100 a month for medical attention and medicine. Of course in cities where they have a great number of doctors that might be reasonable. But the hon. minister knows well the situation in the north. Take for instance a doctor living in Kapuskasing, surrounded by a large number of unorganized municipalities where there is no doctor. If that doctor is limited to \$100 a month, then the people who have suffered in these distressed times are not going to be benefited by this new legislation; they will not receive the required medical attention. Speaking for the doctors in the Porcupine, Cochrane, Kapuskasing and Hearst districts, I know that they do not charge more than thirty or forty per cent of the usual fees, but I believe with the \$100 limit it is impossible for the doctors in those vast scattered and unorganized districts, where there live quite a number of people, to give the attention that the people need. Before leaving that subject I wish to say that the government merits praise in connection with that important matter of looking after the health of the people in these scattered districts in northern Ontario.

I listened with a great deal of attention to the statement of the hon. Minister of Labour regarding the back to the land movement. I am absolutely with him in the work that has been accomplished there.

At eleven o'clock the house adjourned, without question put, pursuant to standing order.

Monday, February 27, 1933

The house met at three o'clock.

PRIVILEGE—MR. DUGUAY

Mr. J. L. DUGUAY (Lake St. John) (Translation): Mr. Speaker, the following news item was published on Saturday last by the newspaper *Le Canada*:

Mr. Duguay went to St. Leon to meet a settler by the name of Jeffrey Levasseur—

I wish to state, sir, that I never met any settler, at St. Leon. Moreover, I have never been to St. Leon. The settler alluded to called to see me at my office. I wish to add that I am amazed at the statement made by the Hon. Mr. Laferté, Minister of Colonization of Quebec. He is entirely wrong in seeking to justify his agents by throwing the blame on me. Within the last ten days settlers from St. Leon—the latter is not in the county of Lake St. John but in that of Chicoutimi—have come regularly to my office with grievances against Mr. Maltais. I