

portion which their expenditures in carrying on their employment services bear to the total expenditures of the employment services throughout the dominion.

Mr. MASSEY: Then the item of \$63,925 is the federal expense? That does not go to the provinces at all?

Mr. ROGERS: No; the \$150,000 goes to the provinces.

Mr. MASSEY: How is that apportioned among the various provinces?

Mr. ROGERS: That is what I just explained. It is divided on the basis of the expenses of a single province in maintaining its employment service, in relation to the total expense of maintaining employment services in all provinces.

Mr. MASSEY: That is, in accordance with the existing set-up?

Mr. ROGERS: Yes.

Mr. MASSEY: In other words, the minister does not suggest, if province A provides perhaps a better service than province B, that there should be greater service extended in province B and the grant be increased proportionately?

Mr. ROGERS: No.

Mr. MASSEY: Is that not a reasonable suggestion? Assume that province A has conducted its service in a highly beneficial manner and rendered much greater service than province B.

Mr. ROGERS: The province which spends most, and which by inference is most interested in maintaining the service, will receive a larger grant from the dominion.

Mr. MASSEY: True, but though it may spend most, it may get fewer results; it may be because more have achieved success in getting a job not in industry but in the employment office itself. The amount of expenditure does not necessarily indicate the ratio of success. After all the measure of success is the number applying and the jobs obtained.

Mr. BENNETT: I come back to my old question. I should like the minister to give effective assurance that conditions which now obtain will be discontinued. I am not at this moment going to give names, but I have the papers and can give the names of the individuals I have in mind. A returned soldier applied to the employment office for a position. He knew of a vacancy. He was told to go and see the chief of the Liberal organization

[Mr. Rogers.]

in the community. He went to him and told him the situation. He went back with a letter from the chief of the Liberal association to the job which was being carried on. There they rather laughed at him, because there seemed to be a fair understanding that that was not going to get him anything. He was not able to get anything to do. The minister has said—what I expected he would say—that he does not approve that sort of thing. But I suggested an alternative method of dealing with it as far as we are concerned. It may be that under the terms of the statute and the agreement which we made we are precluded at present from lessening our contribution. The minister did not make this arrangement; it was made before he came. The late government did not make it, it was made immediately after the war. In 1918, I think, we undertook to make a grant, and according to my memory the grant has been \$150,000 direct, in addition to a varying sum depending upon administration, which I understand is our administration cost. Is that right?

Mr. ROGERS: Yes.

Mr. BENNETT: We are dealing with expenditures of the dominion government with respect to this item. And the next item we have been considering with relation to it is the payment of the \$150,000 which we do not expend but which is expended by the provinces. Now, having regard to the terms of the agreement of 1918, I realize the difficulty of the minister saying, We are not going to make this payment. But I do ask him to say definitely that this sort of thing must stop. And it is easily stopped. All we have to do is to have someone who represents us with respect to these undertakings. The undertaking I have in mind involves an expenditure well on to a million dollars. The work is on a cost-plus basis. It is monstrous—I use that word again, at which the minister sometimes smiles—that a poor unfortunate cannot get a job because he cannot get a letter to the employment office from the head of the Liberal organization.

The other day the Prime Minister made his position clear, and the minister has done so again this afternoon. But that is no good. What I want is some action; and the minister can give it if he will. He knows quite well how to stop this sort of thing if he wants to do so. It can be stopped. We who pay at least half the money for the job are not going to permit someone to tell us that a man cannot get a position unless he does certain things, and even then it does not always get him the job. I would ask the minister to give some assurance that this sort of thing is going to stop. The other evening,