

*Supply—Mines—Soldier Settlement*

other man failed. The failure was due to, shall I say, some lack of ability, of capacity to manage, however you like to describe it.

Mr. COLDWELL: Perhaps, lack of suitability for the work he was doing.

Mr. CRERAR: Well, probably. The probabilities are that he never should have attempted farming.

Mr. JACQUES: I brought to the notice of the minister the case of a returned man who is to be turned off his farm this fall. The minister replied that we in this corner were, or would be, very free with the taxpayers' money. But may I remind the minister that, so long as that man is on the farm, he is not there at the public expense, so far as I know; but if he is turned off his farm and is forced on relief, in all probability he will be living at the expense of the taxpayer.

Let me say this, for it is something I do not talk about as a rule, that I know western Canada. I have been there since the year 1901, and I have lived always on the land; I have never engaged in any other business. When people argue that, because a man over here makes a success or what is called a success, and a man over there does not, the difference represents the real values of these two men, I say they do not know what they are talking about.

Let me point to the case of the most successful farmer Alberta ever had, the late George Lane. He came on a saddle-horse to the province before the province was formed. He lived to accumulate over a million dollars; yet when he died, George Lane was absolutely broke in mind, body and pocket. I can instance any number of men who have had similar experiences. It is easy enough for a firm or an accountant to press the keys on a machine and then turn a handle, and produce a result. But that does not represent the conditions on a farm.

Remarks about taxpayers' money come ill from those who were responsible for one million Canadians being on relief—people who would still be on relief had it not been for this war. Will anyone say that these one million people were inefficient or too lazy to work? They are not too lazy to fight, as we have found out. I wish the minister would look into this case and see that this man, after serving the country in the last war and having raised a family, living not at the expense of the taxpayers, is not turned on the road now or at any time. If he lived through the depression and the weather we

[Mr. Crerar.]

have had in Alberta in the last twenty years, he deserves at least to be let alone to live as best he can.

Item agreed to.

339. To provide for the payment to the government of the United Kingdom on account of losses under the 3,000 British family agreement of August 20, 1924, and the New Brunswick 500 British family agreements of August 4, 1927, and August 27, 1935, \$20,000.

Mr. COLDWELL: Can the minister give the comparable figures with regard to the British family settlement scheme—the number of original contracts, the number completed, the number of people who still remain with those who have barely more than a fighting chance to come through?

Mr. CRERAR: I have not that information. Under the 3,000-family scheme the original number was slightly below that figure, but I am bound to say that the scheme has not worked out successfully. There have been heavy losses, and more losses will accrue to the federal treasury before the full scheme is finally liquidated.

Mr. COLDWELL: It is the old story. We did not choose sufficiently well the people who were adapted to that kind of work, and in some instances the land was not good. I went to the quarantine section in southern Saskatchewan and saw the people trying to make a living on land that had been passed up for nearly fifty years. They were grubbing on Canadian Pacific land—and how the Canadian Pacific fleeced them!

Item agreed to.

## ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

516. General administration—further amount required, \$15,836.75.

Mr. COLDWELL: Reasonable consideration should be given to these estimates. They are being called so rapidly that I have not been able to turn the pages to see what we were approving. I have no objection to passing over items that are not contentious. I wanted to see what item 45 was, but I found that we were six jumps ahead of it.

Mr. LAPOINTE (Quebec East): Those were all rather routine items—for instance, to pay the indemnity of members of parliament.

Item agreed to.

Resolutions reported, read the second time and concurred in.