

of time. I do not know that the department or the minister can be blamed if a certain proportion of these people do not remain in the occupation which they are expected to follow. And, after all, I do not know that any great hardship will ensue if they do not, provided that they are willing to fulfil some of the obligations which rest upon them as citizens of this country. The idea that everybody who comes here should take up farm work seems to have been a little overdone.

It has been stated by Mr. Moore and others that a large number of persons in this country are out of employment, but I venture to state that since the first immigrant arrived in Canada there were never so many actual demands for workers as there are at this time. Many people are out of work because they cannot get employment such as they have been engaged in in the past, and are not willing to take up any other. Calls for workers are being made from many different quarters, yet there are no workers to be found. Who is to blame for that? Have we arrived at the stage where a man who cannot get just the kind of employment he wants, though there are demands for services in many directions, simply sits down and asks the country to come to his rescue? There is no use in closing our eyes to the conditions which confront us, or in allowing our partisan inclinations to influence us. It is the duty of every citizen to come to the assistance of the minister and of the Government on this question so that it may be settled now and for all time to come. Many people have made it their business during the last few years to agitate the public mind and to make it appear that there is no work in this country, and at the same time they have been demanding that hours of labour shall be reduced, that what a workman does shall be subject to limitations, and that if he does more than that he shall be penalized by the unions which are running this country at the present time. We all know that this condition confronts us; yet we have not the courage to express our views—to spit it out; to say what is passing through our minds. This is the condition which is responsible for much of the trouble with which the country is confronted in the matter of railway transportation. I say that that is the key note of the whole trouble. The unions are in control; they are dictating to the Government and to everybody else, and as a result we are en-

deavouring to meet big deficits in connection with the operation of our railway lines. How long is this to continue? Yet some people say that the minister should shut out all immigration until everybody who is now unemployed can find work that suits his present requirements or desires. I say that there never was a greater demand for labour in this country than there is now, and if we can get desirable citizens from the Old Land we need have nothing to fear, provided that the minister carries out the inspection at the port of landing which he says he intends to put into effect. But we must be placed in such a position that no union shall dictate the transportation rates of this country, as is the condition at present. We are in the hands of an organization which during the war period dictated the policy of this country, and as a result of having had to submit to that organization we are confronted by our present difficulties. The sooner we throw off these shackles and give our assistance as a unit to the minister and to the Government in this respect, the better it will be for all concerned.

Mr. IRVINE: The hon. member for South Oxford (Mr. Sutherland) says that we should settle this question now and for all time. I have no objection, if he wants to do that, but I doubt very much whether he can settle any question now and for all time. He also says that we should have the courage, to use his own words, to "spit" this thing out now. Well, I do not see any great need for courage to say anything that the hon. member said, unless you have to have courage when you are talking a little beside the facts. I am sure no one in the House will agree with the statement of the hon. member that those who have been unemployed in Canada during the last year are out of work simply because they are looking for particular jobs; that is too ridiculous for comment. As to my question to the minister, I do not think the answer is satisfactory. I am not one of those who think that immigration is the solution of all our national troubles. However, I am not speaking dogmatically for or against that, neither am I opposed to immigration as such. I do not think under present circumstances it is possible to bring in farmers only, but even if we could do that, no one will say that the farmers of this country, particularly those of western Canada, are prepared to hire