

Mr. POULIOT: I would ask my hon. friend, in the first place, not to place a false interpretation upon my words.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): I did not do that.

Mr. POULIOT: It is much better to let me finish; and the hon. member ought to know that it is always dangerous to interrupt me, because he does not know what I am about to say. In my argument I am not complaining about giving assistance to those who need it; that is not my point of view. My complaint is that one part of the country is receiving aid through the gift of large sums of money by way of loans and grants. Those moneys amount to \$157,393,595.65. Last year we heard the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Labour say that the interest was not all paid on that large sum of money.

This is a serious consideration, and as an hon. member representing taxpayers who contribute to those loans and grants, and who are responsible for the guarantees, I say to the western provinces, "You have got something; do not complain that you have received nothing."

Mr. JOHNSTON (Bow River): How much did Quebec get in the same period?

Mr. LACROIX (Beauce): They got twenty cents on their butter.

Mr. POULIOT: Hon. members from the west are always asking more and more. That is their right, but they ought not to forget what they have received. I do not say that they must thank the government; they have no reason to thank the government for assistance given to people on relief. But at least they could show their appreciation. That is why I have just complimented one of the supporters of the opposition.

Mr. MacNICOL: The hon. member for Lake Centre (Mr. Diefenbaker).

Mr. POULIOT: I know what stand he has taken in the matter. People have been put on land in Quebec. Those lands have been found to be rocky, and they are not fertile. It is not the fault of those settlers that they were given wrong information about the district to which they went. But under the present circumstances it is impossible to get anything for them. I shall not repeat what I said a few days ago in that connection; but if farmers in the west receive a certain amount of aid from the dominion government by way of loans to the provinces, I do not see why the settlers in my constituency cannot have the same kind of aid. That is my point of

view, and it seems to me it is a fair one. I have written often to the Department of Labour, although the present minister of that department may not have seen the correspondence. If he were to refer to his officials they would tell him that they have received more correspondence on behalf of the settlers from the hon. member for Témiscouata (Mr. Pouliot) than they have received from any other member of the House of Commons. In that correspondence I have made representations respecting the dire circumstances in which those people were living. They have been asking aid from the government.

I do not complain because the western farmers are receiving help. That is the end of my argument. But I do point out that the settlers in my constituency, and especially those in the southern part—the leader of the opposition is familiar with the parish of St. Jean-de-la-Lande—are suffering hardships. I want them to receive the same help as the western farmers have received. It seems to me that that would be fair.

Mr. JOHNSTON (Bow River): We are right with you on that.

Mr. POULIOT: If we only listen to each other there will be complete understanding in a short time.

Mr. MacNICOL: Except in connection with matters of finance.

Mr. POULIOT: I am not talking about finance. Nothing has been given to my people. I want something given. It may take months or years, but I know they will get it.

An hon. MEMBER: The hon. member will be over here then.

Mr. POULIOT: I will be here until I die, and I expect to live to an old age.

A most sensible decision was arrived at by the city of Cincinnati with regard to relief. The city manager of that municipality is Colonel Clarence O. Sherrill, a gentleman who has had considerable experience, both as an engineer and otherwise. The soundness of the policies of this city in dealing with the relief problem has been demonstrated quite clearly. They decided:

1. To see that no one suffers from lack of food, shelter, clothing and fuel.
2. That no unworthy person shall receive relief.
3. That every able-bodied adult shall prove his worthiness by working for the relief furnished his family.
4. That each person on relief shall have a real incentive to get a job in private employ.