

lishment of these exchanges. Of course they have a regulation which provides that at a time when a dispute is going on between the trades, where the wages are lower than those current in the trade or district where the employment is being sought, that those bureaus will not interfere in any way with the condition then existing, and by this regulation they do not interfere with the work of the union, or with the question of the rate of wages as between the employer and employee. They also have a provision for advancement of fares so that employees may be sent from one part of the country to another at a reasonable rate; as far as Great Britain is concerned it has been found that this arrangement works out very well; there has been very small loss in dealing with this question. That is a matter, of course, which might be very much more difficult to handle in a country as large as the Dominion of Canada.

The other day I read in the Ottawa Citizen a notice with regard to what was being done in the city of Toronto. The item reads as follows:

**Toronto Prepares to Aid Unemployed.
Give-a-Man-a-Job Association Formed.**

Toronto, March 4.—At a meeting this afternoon including representatives from every phase of charitable work in the city, a Give-a-Man-a-Job Association was organized, Mayor Church being the instigator. A strong advisory committee was appointed to prepare details and devise a comprehensive scheme to relieve the unemployed situation in the city. The mayor advocated the reorganization of the labour bureau and considerable increase in its scope. "If outside municipalities will take care of their unemployed," said the mayor, "Toronto, which has been a dumping ground for the province, will do its duty." A number of suggestions were made which will be considered by the committee.

The mayor brought out in that statement a condition which I am trying to impress upon the House—that it is not only in the big centres that this question of unemployment requires to be dealt with, but also that, in the smaller municipalities and the country districts, something should be done to prevent those men drifting into the big centres where they naturally think that a great deal more work exists but where, in all probability, they may find that there is no more work, or not as much, as in the districts which they have left. Of course, there have been a number of petitions presented to this House dealing with this question and expressing the opinion of public bodies and other people on the question of the establishment of labour bureaus

throughout this Dominion of Canada; and if I am rightly informed the matter was brought to the attention of the Minister of Labour either last year or the year before, and I think that he promised to take some action in connection with it. As far as I know, nothing has definitely been done with regard to that, and I presume he has not had time to give it all the consideration that he thinks the question deserves. But I submit that at the present time this is a question which is of very considerable importance to this country, and that it should receive attention as soon as possible. We know, of course, at the present moment that the demand for labour in Great Britain is very great, and that there might be a possible suggestion that something could be done by the Government to arrange with the home Government that certain special skilled men on this side who were not in a position to find work at the present time should be transferred for a short period over there—say during the period while the war is on. They might be of use to the country. We saw in the paper the other day that the Government in England had taken very drastic measures to deal with the whole question, so that they may be in a position to have a plentiful supply of munitions of war and other necessary supplies required for carrying on the great struggle in which the country is engaged at the present time. It is, of course, rather a wide suggestion to make, but the Government might find we could be of very valuable assistance to the country; both a help to this country and also to the Empire in dealing with the matter in this way, and also in rendering assistance to the people at home. This is a matter which requires attention at the present moment.

Hon. Mr. DAVIS—I was not aware that this matter was going to be discussed today, and I wish to speak on it. It is a matter of some importance and the data cannot be collected in a day; I therefore move that the debate be adjourned until Tuesday next.

The motion was agreed to.

**COAL IMPORTED FROM UNITED
STATES FOR INTERCOLONIAL
RAILWAY.**

INQUIRY.

Hon. Mr. Power inquired of the Government:

1. How many tons of coal have been purchased yearly from the United States for the