

has had in this country for a very long time, unless it is merely a matter of travelling to ascertain from observation how best they think the desired ends can be attained. In any event the effective carrying out of any suggestion would involve a duplication if the social insurance act is sustained, or if it is not, the setting up of organizations of the kind contemplated by that measure.

Subsection agreed to.

On subsection (g)—Apprenticeship.

Mr. BENNETT: I think it must be said that this is a provincial matter, in connection with which the commission can only report. Surely a body set up by this parliament to investigate and report upon the question of apprenticeships can accomplish nothing as far as making a report of any value is concerned, because that is a matter solely under the control of each of the nine provinces. Each of the nine provinces, as the situation now stands, must have control of the contracts dealing with apprenticeships. What the commission could do would be to report that in Prince Edward Island, we will say, sons of farmers should be apprenticed to farmers. That could not have any value, because it would be for the government of Prince Edward Island to determine what action should be taken, and the recommendation made to this government could not have any value as far as that province would be concerned. The same remarks would apply with respect to the industrial provinces, in connection with employment. I merely mention this in passing because one hon. gentleman—I forget which one it was—referred to the matter yesterday, and I felt that his point was well taken.

Mr. KINLEY: This and the preceding paragraph are the two paragraphs of the bill that I particularly like, because I think they contain great possibilities. This paragraph indicates cooperation between industry and the state. Industry employs labour, and I cannot conceive of any better way to help unemployment than by cooperation with those who employ labour at the present time.

This paragraph is particularly important at this moment because it touches the problem of youth. We have among the unemployed in Canada at present many older people; as far as they are concerned that problem will pass away in time, but these youths are the advancing army that is coming along. Boys fourteen, fifteen or sixteen come out of school, and if they are drifters for the next five or six years they will be not only ruined

as far as their citizenship is concerned but apt to become a menace to the state. The adolescent period between seventeen and twenty-one is the time when the state should be most particular in looking after the youth of this country. As one who is an employer of labour, and who has been such all my life since I have been connected with industry, I find that especially in the rural towns the boys, including those of good families, hang round the pool-rooms, live at their fathers' tables, drifting along without any purpose and without that self-expression that means so much to youth. These boys want to learn trades. Every day in my office, when I am home, I have applications from boys saying: Can you take us in and teach us a trade? We are not particular how much we get but we would like to learn to do something.

There is such a thing as continuity of labour. If we have depressed conditions for five years and industry has not the recruits now who will provide the skilled labour later, when times get better there will be a shortage of skilled labour. It does not take long to destroy the continuity of labour. Even to-day, if times were to get better suddenly, there would be a shortage of skilled workmen. Even if there is no work for such boys when they get through they will be equipped for something; they will have learned a trade; they will have acquired self-confidence and self-esteem, and they will be permitted that self-expression that is most valuable. If there could be cooperation between industry and the state in regard to taking boys into industry I think this would be very valuable. It might have to be a subsidized apprenticeship. For instance there is no better general training for a boy than as a junior in a bank. The banks might not need more boys, but if they took in a few in cooperation with the state and taught them the business for the next few years, they would be doing something that would be good for the boys and good for the business structure of the country, and for the institution also, because I fear for the future of Canada unless we take up this problem seriously and look after this advancing army of youth. Teach them to work; teach every boy a trade. Make it the responsibility of those connected with industry as well as the responsibility of the state that these boys should be taught trades so that they can look after themselves after they have completed their education. That could be done by a small expenditure. The last thing we want in this country is people on relief; that destroys the very thing that will make a