

the whole body of data with respect to unemployment and relief. And I have no doubt that in seeking to improve the existing methods and to obtain more information the suggestions made by my hon. friend will be of much value. I cannot say whether it will be possible to make the distinction he has suggested between cyclical and technological unemployment. In a period of depression, under the impact of a combination of forces it is not always possible to distinguish sharply between the causes of unemployment. I am sure my hon. friend will appreciate that it would be extremely difficult to get any reliable figures on that point. But we shall be glad to look into it and see if progress is being made in other countries in that direction.

As to the third question, the bill provides that there shall be close cooperation between the national employment commission and the veterans' assistance commission, and I think I can assure my hon. friend that if the veterans' assistance commission feels that it would be of advantage to secure more detailed classification of veterans who are unemployed and on relief, the national employment commission will cooperate heartily towards that end.

Mr. MacINNIS: Will the registration contemplated by this bill be a periodic registration, or will it be continuous?

Mr. ROGERS: The intention is to have these figures presented from month to month. The forms as agreed upon by the national employment commission will be sent to the provinces and the municipalities, and upon the basis of those forms they will receive monthly returns giving the classification of those who are on relief. So that we should be able not only to determine the changing character of the problem but also, I trust, to measure the progress that we have been able to make.

Mr. MacINNIS: That would mean that the only changes that would take place from month to month would be the new ones that had come on and old ones that had dropped off. It would not be necessary to have a full registration for each month?

Mr. ROGERS: No.

Mr. McDONALD (Souris): I know the committee is anxious to get on with this bill, but I have not heard anyone say much from the farmers' standpoint, and I have still an idea that this unemployment question will never be settled until the primary producer and the labourer get a square deal. The leader of the opposition (Mr. Bennett) very properly told us yesterday that it was not a lack of

money; that the banks and monetary institutions of this country have plenty of money, but they will not lend it to the farmer or the small businessman. Why? Because the banker will tell you that farm lands, wheat, cattle, commodities of that kind, are not to-day the security they used to be. Now I would like to know who it is that says that farm lands, wheat, cattle and similar commodities are not as much needed in the world to-day as they ever were. I know in my own case that I cannot borrow hundreds to-day where I could borrow thousands ten years ago, and I ought to be a little better man to-day than I was ten years ago; if I am not I should not be here. Who is it that causes that lack of confidence? At the risk of giving the Minister of Labour a little more advice, I claim that until we restore confidence in this country we shall never settle the unemployment problem. I believe that if we could gather the employers of labour and the captains of industry around a table and they would put the cards on the table and talk matters over, the thing could be settled. We need houses, we need farms, we need the products of the farm and of the factory as we never did before. We need more to-day than we ever did before because for years we have not been buying. It will be the duty of the Minister of Labour to restore that confidence, and when that is done I think it will be found that a lot of our troubles are over.

I know the committee is in a hurry to get on with this bill, but I do feel that it is the great duty of the minister and of the commission he is setting up to bring together the captains of industry and labour, and my advice to him would be not to pay too much attention to the professional leaders of labour because if labour difficulties were settled these men would be out of a job. On the other hand I would not pay too much attention to those captains of industry who have no interest in their employees except that of making money out of them. I believe that will be the problem of the commission which is to be set up, and which I am sure every member of this house is only too anxious to see solve some of the difficulties we are facing to-day in the matter of unemployment.

Mr. DOUGLAS: This question of classification is important. In my opinion a registration of the unemployed who are on relief would not necessarily have to be compulsory, because the possibility of any benefit accruing from being registered would be sufficient inducement to bring almost the entire number of unemployed to registration. If a proclamation were issued and the time specified