

Unemployment Assistance

example, who might be covered by this legislation? At the present time the province and the municipalities are providing assistance for a certain number of our citizens on a 50-50 basis. I wonder whether the minister could give us some information in that regard?

Mr. Martin: About 4,052.

Mr. Nicholson: About 4,000 at the present time?

Mr. Martin: Four thousand and fifty-two.

Mr. Nicholson: I wonder whether the minister could tell us how many there are in the province of Saskatchewan who would be eligible when this legislation is passed?

Mr. Martin: Four thousand and fifty-two—

Mr. Nicholson: I gather that is the base?

Mr. Martin: No. The base is 4,000. The total number as of February, 1955, was 8,052. The 4,000 represents the threshold, '45.

The Chairman: Shall the clause as amended carry?

Clause as amended agreed to.

On clause 4—*Contents of agreement.*

Mrs. Fairclough: I have a question on clause 4, subsection (a). The matter is not included in the subsection. I presume this is the section which would cover the basis for the statistics on the population. Will the minister tell us how they procure the figures as to the population of the respective provinces, and how often they are changed?

Mr. Martin: The figures are changed every year; June 1, 1955.

Mrs. Fairclough: On what basis are they changed? Obviously there is no census.

Mr. Martin: Dominion bureau of statistics figures.

Mrs. Fairclough: Under this same section?

Mr. Martin: It is the same as in connection with the tax agreement.

Mrs. Fairclough: Would the minister give us an explanation of clause 8 (a) (iv) of the agreement?

Mr. Martin: Clause 8 (a) (iv), a charitable organization; it would be any kind of institution that is not normally within the control of the province such as, for instance, a mental institution like that at Whitby or Orillia.

Mrs. Fairclough: They are under provincial control.

Mr. Martin: That would not be included but it would include any other such as, for instance, a nursing home that was maintained

by a church or by a municipality in conjunction with a church or by a voluntary organization; or an old age pension home, either one operating on its own under the old basis or one under the National Housing Act. In other words we seek to include those institutions that are not normally considered as provincial and for which the patients receive assistance through the provinces.

Mrs. Fairclough: Would that cover an institution or organization where the institution itself receives some assistance from the provincial authorities but the inmates receive none? That is to say, there are certain private hospitals which qualify under certain classifications in Ontario. I do not know about the other provinces, but in Ontario there are certain institutions which qualify for assistance on a per-bed basis, yet wherein the inmates themselves receive no assistance other than probably the old age pension. The minister says that if the inmates are not in receipt of provincial assistance the institution is covered. Let us take as an example the old age act, the provincial one. What do you call it?

Mr. Martin: Old age assistance.

Mrs. Fairclough: Let us take as an example old age assistance. Suppose a person is resident in one of these institutions and receives old age assistance, which amount then automatically goes to the institution itself. Would that fact disqualify that person under this act?

Mr. Martin: If the individual is receiving old age assistance he would not be included under the provisions of this act unless the province provided additional assistance to the old age assistance. In Ontario, for instance, under the supplementary old age assistance provisions that were recently announced, that would not preclude them because that is not a supplementary payment in the sense that it is in Alberta, Saskatchewan and British Columbia. There it is really assistance. The municipality contributes \$8 and the province \$12. Under this act they would not be regarded as excluded for the purpose of what is called supplementary assistance in the province of Ontario but which we would regard as additional assistance. Section 9 of the agreement covers that matter.

Mrs. Fairclough: Without regard to section 9 of the agreement at the moment, may I ask this question. If the province itself is contributing to an institution wherein are resident persons receiving old age pensions or old age assistance, would the amount that is contributed by the province in excess of the amount which that institution would