

to bear a greater percentage of cost because we see no indication of immediate decrease in the relief load and as you are aware province is not in position to assume a larger share. Kindly advise.

John Bracken.

Winnipeg, Manitoba,
April 3, 1936.

Honourable Norman McL. Rogers,
Minister of Labour,
Ottawa, Ontario.

Further to my wire of yesterday regarding relief costs and dominion grant you will be interested to know the total costs for Manitoba for four months December to March inclusive will total two million four hundred thousand including close estimate of March. Am writing you this information so that you will know what proportion you are contributing.

John Bracken.

Ottawa, April 3, 1936.

The Honourable Mitchell F. Hepburn,
Premier of Ontario,
Toronto, Ontario.

Your telegram 2nd. Would again point out that the large increase of 75 per cent in the grant in aid as from December 1st last was made distinctly for the four winter months December, January, February and March only. The present reduction of 15 per cent in that increased grant for the present month was reached only after the most careful consideration of the whole relief problem and as a matter of fact after a considerable larger reduction had been contemplated and discussed. In view of the very material reduction in relief rolls as indicated by Honourable David Croll in his speech on the budget and in view also of the lower costs which have always prevailed during spring and summer months, we do not feel that the 15 per cent reduction can be regarded as unreasonable, especially when present contribution is compared with that which prevailed in April of last year. As requested by you the announced reduction was reconsidered by cabinet to-day but was confirmed for the reasons above stated.

Norman McL. Rogers,
Minister of Labour.

Ottawa, April 3, 1936.

Honourable John Bracken,
Premier of Manitoba,
Winnipeg, Man.

Your telegram of April second and third received. Would again point out that the large increase of 75 per cent in the grant in aid as from December first last was made distinctly for the four winter months December, January, February and March only. The present reduction of 15 per cent in that increased grant for the present month was reached only after the most careful consideration of the whole relief problem and as a matter of fact after a considerably large reduction had been contemplated and discussed. In view of the lower costs which have always prevailed in spring and summer months

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Norman McL. Rogers,
Minister of Labour.

FARM LOAN ACT INSPECTORS

Mr. LACOMBE:

1. Pursuant to the Farm Loan Act, will the government appoint additional appraising inspectors in connection with the valuation of farms?

2. If so, how many such inspectors will be appointed in the province of Quebec?

3. How many by constituency?

4. When will they be officially appointed?

5. When will they start inspecting farms?

6. Will the larger agricultural centres have a greater number of such inspectors?

7. Will such appraising inspectors be obliged to make their reports to the board with as short a delay as possible?

8. Will they receive instructions to that effect?

Mr. DUNNING:

1. The government does not appoint appraisers under the Canadian Farm Loan Act. In accordance with the provisions of that act the Canadian Farm Loan Board appoints all appraisers employed thereunder. Information supplied by the Canadian Farm Loan Board.

2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. The number of appraisers employed in the province will depend on the number of loan applications in respect of which appraisals are required, and appointments will be made as the work requires. Appraisal operations will be initiated when conditions are considered suitable for proper appraisal work.

7. Yes.

8. Yes.

SASKATCHEWAN GRAIN PURCHASES

Mr. PERLEY (Qu'Appelle):

1. Has the federal government any knowledge of the transactions with respect to the purchase of oat futures and cash oats, by the provincial government of Saskatchewan during the period from September, 1934, to January 1, 1936, and at what stage are the negotiations between the two governments at the present time, with respect to losses on account of said transactions?

2. Will the Minister of Finance table all letters, telegrams and other documents between the federal and provincial government of Saskatchewan since October 15, to date, dealing with said transactions?

3. Has the dominion government any liability, or do they intend to assume any liability for losses occasioned by option purchases and cash