

Unemployment Relief

heard the Prime Minister's explanation and not having read Hansard the secretary will probably advise his council that should they make this advance to the farmer, as it is not given strictly to relieve unemployment, they must not look for any assistance from the government. I think it is not unreasonable to say he would be giving fairly good advice. I think also it is probable that should the council refer the matter to their solicitor he would say: "The terms of the act are precise; they are not ambiguous; therefore it seems to me that the council has no right to look to the province or to the Dominion for assistance. If it is agreeable to the Prime Minister I suggest that he amplify this clause so as to make it quite clear to the municipal councils that the needy centres will receive some measure of relief from the government."

Mr. HURTUBISE: I listened with a great deal of interest to the remarks of my right hon. leader this afternoon when he asked the Prime Minister if it would not be wise to incorporate in the bill a provision that within a certain period there should be an official auditing of the moneys expended under this appropriation in every province. That struck me as a very wise suggestion. Northern Ontario, for which I am speaking more particularly, is in a very peculiar situation. Unless some such provision as has been suggested is made, the moneys expended in that part of the province, through the northern development branch of the Ontario government, will never be heard of. I heartily endorse the suggestion of my right hon. leader that an official audit be made by the Auditor General of the moneys expended more particularly in northern Ontario, where for years we have been accustomed to the steam-roller system. I have every confidence that the leader of this government has no intention of railroading us, but I am afraid that if he gives a free hand to the government of Ontario, we shall be rail-roaded again through the northern Ontario development branch. That is what I want to avoid.

Last night I read an official affidavit signed before one of the representatives of the government as to the way in which moneys were expended in northern Ontario for political purposes. That affidavit was signed before a notary public. I read another, signed by the man making the affidavit, to the effect that the document stated the truth. I have other documents here which I propose to read to

show how money is being spent in northern Ontario for political purposes. Here is the first affidavit:

Ontario
District of Sudbury
To wit:

I, Polydor Gratton, of the township of Balfour, in the district of Sudbury, labourer, make oath and say:—

1. I was called upon by Wilfred Vaillancourt, the foreman in charge of the works on the road between concessions two and three in the township of Balfour, for the Northern Ontario Development branch to make an affidavit to the effect that I had voted Conservative on the elections of the 28th of July, 1930. This was on the 30th or 31st day of July, 1930.

2. He told me that if I did not want to pay for the affidavit that he would pay of it.

3. My employment with the said works was that of feeder at the crusher, and after refusing to make such affidavit he told me that I would go to shovel rock and I ask him the reason for changing me, he said: "Go and shovel rock this forenoon and you go to work for Bowman this afternoon."

Bowan was the Liberal candidate. The affidavit continues:

I answer that I might as well start to work for Bowman right now and I left the place.

4. That the cheque for the payment of the work I had done for the month of July, 1930, was delivered to Abbé Vaillancourt according to statement made to me by Wilfred Vaillancourt when I ask him for the said cheque, when I asked him why he had not delivered this cheque to me he told me that I would have to call at Abbé Vaillancourt to get it. Finally he went and got the cheque and delivered same to me on Saturday night the 23rd day of August, A.D., 1930.

(Signed) Polydor Gratton.

Sworn before me at the town of Chelmsford, in the district of Sudbury, this 25th day of August, A.D., 1930.

(Signed) Louis Groulx.
A Com. &c.

Here is the other one:

Ontario
District of Sudbury
To wit:

We, Louis Leduc and Ferdinand Leduc, both of the township of Balfour in the district of Sudbury, make oath and say, each for himself, make oath and say:—

1. That before the elections we were promised \$500 to spend on the road between lots 10 and 11 or the road between lots 8 and 9 of the second concession of the township of Balfour, by G. A. Chouinard, Raoul Vaillancourt, Edgar Eaton and Ed. Vaillancourt, if we voted for G. B. Nicholson.

2. That on the 2nd day of August, 1930, we came to Chelmsford and stopped at Mr. Chouinard and spoke to him about this money and he told us that we would likely be asked to take affidavit to the effect that we voted Conservative but that as for himself he would not care for it but told us that we had better go with him to see Raoul Vaillancourt.

3. When we were at Raoul Vaillancourt we asked Raoul Vaillancourt about this money, and he told us that we would have to take an affidavit to that same effect, but still that he