

the consideration of the municipality. The municipality is supposed to look after its indigent, those who are in want. It is their responsibility and duty to look after all such people, and when they are not able to discharge that duty then they come to the province and ask for assistance. If it is a small matter the province assists, as it has done in the past; but when it involves anything of magnitude, as in the past ten years, spreading over a large part of Saskatchewan, affecting seventy or more municipalities, then it becomes too large a problem for the province and the province asks for our assistance. It gets that assistance and this bill is for the purpose of meeting that need.

But we as a dominion have nothing to do with the administration of relief. It is administered entirely by the province and the municipality. If a farmer needs relief he goes to the municipality and applies for it. He signs a request asking for relief, and then either the council as a whole or a committee of the council will consider the application and decide how much relief should be granted or whether there shall be any relief. The province has a relief officer who looks after several municipalities. He will come to the municipal office and go over the relief orders with the council or a committee of the council, and the committee of the council and that relief officer have both to sign the order before the man can get relief. If a man is not getting enough relief, as some people have complained, it is the fault not of this government but of the municipality and the relief officer. The councillor living next door to the man knows quite well how much relief he needs or whether he needs any, and they decide how much will be given. They are the ones to whom complaint should be made. It has been that way all along. There has been no change. It is no use coming here and blaming this government because people are not getting enough relief. It is no use saying it is this government's fault. It is the provincial government, with the relief officer and the municipality above all else, who is to blame, if there is any blame.

Some peculiar men in the haw corner have read letters from their constituencies. One man read a letter about a school-teacher who, he said, had had to put up with various insects, the worst being bedbugs and fleas. What has that to do with relief? What is the hon. member trying to do? Is he trying to advertise the district? Perhaps he is advertising it for tourists. I am sure the people who live in that district must be proud to have it branded in that way by a member. But that has nothing to do with relief, as

everyone knows. The same man says something about the school district. He says they are unemployed, there is no chimney in the building, the chimney is falling to pieces and they have no well. What does he want? Do those people want this government to tax people in Nova Scotia or in eastern Canada generally in order to dig wells for them while they sit around and do nothing because they are unemployed? Why do they not dig their own wells and fix their own chimneys? Why bring up that sort of thing in this house? Why read such letters? I do not think the reading of letters in this house should be allowed unless the names of the writers are disclosed so that the complaints may be investigated. We have investigated a number of these letters from Saskatchewan and we have always found that there was a nigger in the woodpile, that the municipality knew better what should or should not be given.

Mr. PERLEY: You are running true to form.

Mr. DONNELLY: I think I am giving pretty nearly what is right.

Then we heard a good deal about schools, but that has nothing to do with this bill at all. Even a school-teacher should know that the local school districts have charge of the schools and the hiring and firing of the school-teachers. The province gives a grant, and then some of our school-teachers say they have not received their grant for three or four months. Well, even a school-teacher should know that the grant is not due until the end of June. It is based upon the number of pupils attending the school up to that time, and it cannot be paid until then. Part of the grant is paid on January 1, on the basis of the attendance since the beginning of the school year, and it is impossible to know how much to pay until that time has elapsed. These grants are paid when they are due. And the school-teachers should know that if they wish they can compel the province to pay the grant to the teachers for their salaries, because that money cannot be used for any purpose other than the salaries of the teachers.

An hon. MEMBER: Try and get it.

Mr. DONNELLY: You can get it if you go after it in the right way, and a school-teacher should know how to do that. Even preachers know that.

Then I come to the remarks of the hon. member for Yorkton (Mr. Castleden). I am afraid some of the medical men and the hospitals in his district would not be very proud to hear what he said in this house. He told us about a man in his district who