Supply

Mr. Peters: I have not asked the question because obviously there is a difference between my thinking and the thinking of the government. I am also trying to point out that there is a difference between the thinking of the government and the thinking of the unemployed.

Mr. Chairman, I realize we cannot carry on a debate across the floor but I should like to ask the Quebec members, who seem to be taking such offence to my statements, whether the fact that one registers with manpower in the province of Quebec entitles one to draw benefits as having been actively seeking employment.

Mr. De Bané: May I answer?

Mr. Peters: Yes.

Mr. De Bané: It is obvious that-

The Deputy Chairman: Order, please. The chair is having difficulty.

[Translation]

Order. The Chair has some difficulty in following the procedure. The hon. member for Timiskaming (Mr. Peters) has the floor, but another member is answering one of his questions and this leads to confusion. It would perhaps be advisable to wait till the member for Matane (Mr. De Bané) gets the floor.

[English]

Mr. Peters: Mr. Chairman, the point I am trying to make is that we have established a new agency for unemployment insurance which is very expensive. It has several hundred people—it would not be difficult to find out exactly how many—going around checking on whether a person is actually looking for work. The hon. member is making a lot of noise from his seat. If he has something to say, I hope he will say it. I suggest to him now, however, that while he is standing on his feet he should walk behind the curtain.

Some hon. Members: Order.

The Deputy Chairman: Order, please. The hon. member for Welland is rising on a point of order.

Mr. Railton: Mr. Chairman, I think the hon. gentleman asked if I knew anything about expense. I think I do. I know pretty well how much it costs to keep hon. members in this House listening to drivel.

Mr. Peters: Mr. Chairman, before you rise and indicate that the hon. member is out of order, I might point out that he has already established his ability in this House. I am really surprised at the attitude of the people from Quebec.

In Ontario we have a practice that if one is unemployed for a short period of time there is what is called a proper search statement. This means that a person must establish that he is seeking work. It is not sufficient for him merely to attend at the manpower office to establish his right to unemployment insurance. Unemployment counselling services have been established to help people obtain jobs. One of the employment agencies is manpower. At one time we had established that office as the only office.

I remember going to a mine in Timmins when one had to make a payment to a private agency in order to get a job working underground for 52 cents an hour. We thought that kind of a situation had disappeared. We established an agency which is costing well over half a million dollars. We created that agency to make jobs available to people and to retrain those who were not competent to fill job vacancies. This program has failed completely.

The Deputy Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Chairman, before Your Honour leaves the chair, may I once again suggest that you ask whether there is unanimous consent to pass all stages of these estimates tonight? If that is not agreeable, perhaps Your Honour would not see the clock.

The Deputy Chairman: Hon. members have heard the suggestion of the hon. member for Yukon. Is the proposal agreed to?

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Chairman, I must inform you that we have other members who have a few things they would like to say. We are not impressed with this sudden interest in expedition.

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Chairman, it is not sudden. It has been done for the last few days. Members at that end of the House say they want to see parliament work, but it will not work with their filibustering.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): The hon. member's halo seems to be hurting him.

The Deputy Chairman: Order, please. There does not seem to be consent.

Progress reported.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. MacLean: Mr. Speaker, before you leave the chair I should like to ask the acting House leader if he would confirm that we will be continuing with this supply bill on Monday afternoon.

Mr. Lang: Yes, Mr. Speaker. It would be our intention to continue, and hopefully complete, this item in the early part of Monday afternoon. We then intend to return to Bill C-2, the Criminal Code amendments.

At 5.03 p.m. the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.