

Supply—Industry

Mr. Pepin: Everything the hon. member is saying is true. There is no credit here for the Wheat Board because it is a self-sustaining institution. Money is being spent for rapeseed promotion. Probably the hon. member was not present when this matter was raised. There has been a mistake. These are indicated as the estimates of trade and commerce in the blue book, but it includes only industry. The estimates of the Department of Trade and Commerce are going to a committee. Only the estimates of the Department of Industry are taken here to day.

Mr. Gleave: Am I to understand from this, Mr. Chairman and Mr. Minister, that there may be some moneys spent on the promotion of rapeseed but those estimates will go to a particular standing committee?

Mr. Pepin: Yes, sir.

Mr. Skoberg: Under the item "Expenses of conferences, seminars and sundries," I notice there is a reduction of close to \$50,000. I should like to know why and in what area the conferences have been reduced, because I believe these have been most beneficial throughout the country.

• (9:10 p.m.)

Mr. Pepin: Well, Mr. Chairman, I really cannot give an answer to that. May I suggest, as in the previous case, that I write to the hon. gentleman, because I simply did not expect to be questioned on such details. The only answer I could find would be out of my imagination, and I do not think, Mr. Chairman, you would want me to give that type of an answer.

Mr. Skoberg: I might agree with that, so long as the minister realizes that these conferences are most important throughout Canada.

Mr. Pepin: I do.

Mr. Skoberg: If the minister realizes that, I will accept the explanation.

Mr. Broadbent: I should like to continue with some of the questions I put to the minister, to see whether he would at least reply more directly to some of them. Does not the minister feel that the situation which exists in Canada now is much more conducive to the development of military research or defend research than it is to non-military research? I have in mind specifically the kind of grant that is provided which enables industries

engaged in defence production to be completely reimbursed in terms of original grants, whereas if research is done in the civilian sector the industry must pay for it if the project should turn out to be profitable. Does not this in fact provide greater encouragement for available capital to go into the defence sector, rather than in the civilian sector of the economy.

Mr. Pepin: I think I have said everything I could say on that subject. I have indicated quite clearly that some of the pangs suffered by my hon. friend are also in part mine, although I realize better than he does the seeding effect of defence production. I have already indicated also that I am looking forward to even more money being given to development and growth in the civilian sector. So I believe I have indicated that I understand his preoccupations. I share them in part.

I also said that this orientation had been undertaken by the department before I came in. It is not often that a minister does not claim to be the originator of such moves! This orientation had already been taken, in the sense that less money was being assigned proportionately speaking to the defence part of the industry, and more money to the civilian side. I have indicated that if my hon. friend would like to do the mathematics, a combination of IRDIA and PAIT, the two programs I talked about this afternoon, would give him quite a lot of governmental support and as much as he would get on a defence project. So, I do not think there is too much disagreement between us. I feel that the debate on this subject, however interesting it is to me as well as to my hon. friend, might now be suspended if not concluded.

Mr. Broadbent: On that point, Mr. Chairman, perhaps we do differ in our mathematical calculation, but more specifically on the question of the degree of pain that the minister claims he shares with me. Incidentally I did not use that term myself originally. I suggest, with respect, he is much more in a position than I am to deal with the problem of his pain.

Mr. McCutcheon: Mr. Chairman, I do not know whether I properly understood the answer to a question I asked regarding the professional and special services. Was the minister to give us that information later?

Mr. Pepin: I can only read from the document which has been give to me. "The object