

*Supply—External Affairs*

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** But whether I did or not, as long as I am Secretary of State for External Affairs and faced with such responsibilities, and knowing there was somebody in this house with a long experience in Africa—

**Mr. Smallwood:** A bunch of boloney.

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** My hon. friend may say that, but let me tell him that there are 38 Canadians who will be grateful for what he has done and who will say he has helped them.

That, Mr. Chairman, is the situation. When the hon. member comes back here he will likely be able to tell us more of what he has done. But I do want to say from all the messages I have had from our own people, from Mr. Gauvin, and particularly from the American government, no one has worked harder as an individual in this matter than the hon. member for Red Deer. I am extremely grateful to him for what he has done.

**Mr. Smallwood:** I have one short remark to make, Mr. Chairman. No one on this side of the house has condemned the hon. member for Red Deer for his efforts. It is the underhanded way the government went about sending him to Africa that is contemptible. The hon. member is now back in Canada and has reported that these refugees are indeed in danger, and that he was not able to get within 30 miles of them. For heavens sake, will the minister not consider sending one of our officials over there to try to make contact with these people? I repeat, no one condemned the hon. member for Red Deer.

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** Mr. Gauvin of our department is there.

**Mr. Smallwood:** Both individuals failed in their efforts, according to the hon. member for Red Deer.

**An hon. Member:** Oh, for goodness sake.

**Mr. Smallwood:** You just go and lay an egg. We would like to send you somewhere, but I will not say where.

**Mr. Alkenbrack:** Mr. Chairman, I should like to ask the minister one short and simple question. Is it not customary to make appeals of a compassionate nature, and investigations such as were undertaken by the hon. member for Red Deer, through our regular diplomatic channels which have been in existence ever since his department was formed? Are there not establishments permanently set up for that purpose?

[Mr. Woolliams.]

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** We have no resident mission in Nairobi, the capital where the president of the organization is, nor have we a mission in Stanleyville.

**Mr. Alkenbrack:** Is it not usual to work through the closest nation with which we have diplomatic relations?

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** That is right, and we have done that. As a result of consultation we have also used the services of the hon. member for Red Deer.

Item agreed to.

5. Representation abroad—operational—including authority, notwithstanding the Civil Service Act, for the appointment and fixing of salaries of high commissioners, ambassadors, ministers plenipotentiary, consuls, secretaries and staff by the governor in council, \$14,679,000.

[Translation]

**Mr. Choquette:** Mr. Chairman, I would like to direct a question to the minister concerning item No. 5.

In February last, all those who benefited from the education the Jesuit fathers dispense were sorry to learn that the latter were ordered out of the country by the government of Haiti and that some of their properties, including the "maison Manrèse" and the radio station which they used for their broadcasts had been confiscated.

I would like to direct the following question to the minister. Were negotiations carried on through our ambassador in that country with a view to allowing the Jesuit fathers to recover their property? Furthermore, could the government seize this opportunity to promote the negotiations of an industrialist called Vachon, who is interested in establishing a business in Haiti, and through those negotiations bring about a compensation for the Jesuit fathers?

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** Mr. Chairman, we are not satisfied with the situation regarding the Jesuit fathers' property in Haiti and we hope that a satisfactory solution can be found. The religious authorities themselves, the church in Haiti and the religious orders involved must, however, find the elements of such a solution before we can find means of implementing it and, in particular, raising the matter with the Haitian government.

I can assure the hon. member that we are following this matter very closely.

[Text]

Item agreed to.