

Supply—Veterans Affairs

veterans. The responsibility really rests on the Department of Veterans Affairs rather than on the Department of Transport. I urge that the two ministers concerned give further consideration to the matter, not only to vocational training but also to educational training. Very few of these men can qualify now for educational training, and many of those who could qualify have been paying their own way to date. I suggest they should be helped now for the remainder of their courses.

I would point out to the Minister of Transport particularly that in the last annual report of his department which we have, that for the year up to March 31, 1948, there is a section dealing with nautical services, and in it we find that one of the responsibilities of the nautical services branch is:

Issue of campaign stars and the War Medal 1939-45 to merchant seamen in recognition of service at sea in dangerous waters during the second world war.

We also find that another of their responsibilities is:

Issue of Memorial Cross to mothers and widows of Canadian merchant seamen who lost their lives at sea or died as a result of service in the second world war.

Just the other day, in answer to a question asked by the hon. member for Nanaimo with regard to what procedure should be followed by ex-members of the Canadian armed forces and the merchant navy who are now resident outside Canada, in order to obtain their campaign stars and medals, the Minister of Transport brought down an answer which read:

Canadian merchant seamen who have taken up permanent residence in the United Kingdom should apply for their general service medals, earned for service in the merchant navy during the second world war, to the registrar general of shipping and seamen, Llantrisant road, Cardiff, Wales.

Then the answer goes on to say where Canadian merchant seamen should apply who have taken up residence in South Africa, Australia or New Zealand. The answer ended by saying:

Canadian merchant seamen who have taken up permanent residence in United States, or other countries not named above, should apply to the supervisor of nautical services, Department of Transport, Ottawa.

The Chairman: Order.

Mr. Green: I am just about finished. Surely if any proof is needed that these men should be given vocational training and treated as though they were members of the armed forces, those two actions by the Department

[Mr. Green.]

of Transport furnish that proof. I would ask the two ministers concerned to give serious consideration to the suggestion.

Item stands.

Progress reported.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Chevrier: On Monday the house will not meet until 4.30 in the afternoon because of the address by the Prime Minister of India. The first item of business will be resuming the debate on the budget. If it is completed or adjourned, we should like to open two or three new departments.

Mr. Green: There are only three left.

Mr. Chevrier: There are more than that. We should like to open National Health and Welfare, Post Office, and Finance.

Mr. MacInnis: Will the Postmaster General be here?

Mr. Chevrier: Then we should like to go into supply with the estimates of the Department of Transport.

Mr. Green: Can the minister tell us how many departments remain to be opened? I understand there are only three, and the agreement the other night was that only one would be opened on the next motion to go into supply.

Mr. Chevrier: I was not here when any agreement was made, but I shall be glad to look at the record. Speaking from memory only, over and above those I have mentioned this evening there are at least two, if not three, more departments to open.

Mr. Green: Three are already in.

Mr. Chevrier: Three are already in, and with these sixteen—there would be more than three.

Mr. Green: Will the minister check up the undertaking given by the Minister of Public Works the other day?

Mr. Chevrier: Yes.

At eleven o'clock the house adjourned, without question put, pursuant to standing order, until Monday, October 24, at 4.30 in the afternoon.

[The following items were passed in committee of supply]:

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Soldier Settlement and Veterans' Land Act—

545. To provide for the cost of administration of Veterans' Land Act; soldier settlement and British family settlement, \$4,447,443.