

Supply—Citizenship and Immigration

conclude the general discussion on this particular item. On the other hand, perhaps he would prefer to follow the course of making his statements on the other two branches when we reach those items—in which case, of course, we would probably expect to have further discussion firstly on citizenship and then on Indian affairs.

Mr. Harris: Mr. Chairman, one of my officials must attend a conference this afternoon and I would prefer to deal with immigration first, complete it, and then go on with the others.

Mr. Fulton: I see. In that case, Mr. Chairman, probably a general discussion at this stage will be fairly well confined to immigration, although I hope the minister will not tie us down too closely because I have a suggestion to make at the outset with respect to the name of the department. Now it is called the Department of Citizenship and Immigration yet it deals with Indian affairs. If the Indians of Canada were citizens in all respects—full citizens—then there would be no point to the suggestion which I am about to make. But, since there are certain respects in which they are not in exactly the same position as those who are Canadian citizens, and since it is an effort of government policy subscribed to and supported by this house and the country as a whole to bring Indians to the point where they may be citizens without differentiation, I think that the name of the department should be extended to include the word "Indian". That would indicate to the country as a whole, and particularly to the Indian population, the importance which is attached to the work of looking after Indians in Canada. It might be a bulky or rather lengthy name but I do not think it would be too long, in view of its importance, to call it the Department of Citizenship, Immigration and Indian Affairs. I hope the minister will cause the necessary amendment to be made to the statute setting up his department to give reflection to the concern which I know the department and he, as well as others of us, do feel about the importance of this subject.

Last night the minister made a general statement on immigration which was a review of previous performance and then it purported to be a statement of policy for the future. The minister in introducing the second part of his remarks said at page 4328 of *Hansard*:

And now, Mr. Chairman, I would like to take just a very brief look at the future.

[Mr. Fulton.]

We hoped that we would get a very definite and positive statement of government policy, but I feel that most of us who hoped that will be disappointed in that the minister's statement, while a statement of broad general principles, was not what we had hoped to have in the way of a statement of policy. There is in it no indication of specific objectives or of specific limits of the broad general principles which are going to be applied by the government in giving effect to those principles. In view of the importance of the subject I do think that we are entitled to know just what the concrete, positive program of the government is with respect to immigration into Canada in the next few years. To what countries are we to look for the major sources of inflow of population? What limits of numbers or what objectives with respect to total immigration has the government in mind or what is it seeking to achieve in bringing people into Canada? About the only indication that we have, and it is pretty general and vague, is contained in these words on page 4328 of *Hansard*:

—the government will continue its program of immigration to stimulate Canadian growth and Canadian development.

We are still left with the question, quite unanswered, of exactly what that means in terms of numbers of people coming into Canada, and arrangements for their reception, their employment and their housing—all matters which, as the member for Cape Breton South has pointed out, go hand in hand with immigration policy. We are left without any information on those specific subjects and I must say, Mr. Chairman, that although the minister refers to a program of immigration to stimulate Canadian growth and development, and says that such is the government's policy, my impression is rather to the contrary. My impression is that the government is certainly not doing very much to stimulate immigration in the sense that it will contribute to the growth of Canada, but rather the government is following an extremely cautious policy. I have the feeling, anyway, that there is some slight pressure on the brake pedal, and that rather than stimulating the growth and development of Canada we are hardly keeping pace—if we are in fact keeping pace it is only just keeping pace—with the demand which, as the minister said, the nature and future of Canada makes for an increase in population. In particular, we are hardly keeping pace with the demand for farm workers. I think anyone coming from an agricultural constituency will agree that there is a considerable shortage of farm workers, and that the