

*By Mr. Fleming:*

Q. You have no power to make loans as an administration, have you?—

A. I think the Act of parliament enables us to make grants or loans.

Q. But you never use it.—A. No, so far not the loan part.

Mr. STUART: How would Canada's contribution compare with that of other countries?

The WITNESS: Very favourably, sir.

The CHAIRMAN: Dr. Keenleyside presented the committee with a list outlining the contributions of all participating countries concerning technical assistance. We were supplied with a list of all the countries, the amounts they were pledged to give and the amounts they actually gave during one full year. I wonder if we might obtain such a list from Mr. Cavell in order that we could append it to our minutes?

The WITNESS: Yes, I would be happy to supply such a list; there would be no difficulty in doing that.

*By Mr. Pearkes:*

Q. I have two unrelated questions. Is any encouragement given to those British East Indians who have been living in Canada for many years to return to their own country? We have several thousands of British East Indians who have been in British Columbia for a great many years. They have become accustomed to our way of life. Many of them have worked in the shipyards, in lumber mills and in logging camps. They are used to handling machinery. Their children have been educated in our schools. However, you cannot say that they really fit into our community or our way of life here. They are doing the best they can, but they are still a minority group. It seems to me that if they could be encouraged to go back to their own country they might well become leaders in the new developments which are taking place in India where technical knowledge is required. Is any encouragement given to them to return?—A. I think that is a very novel idea, but I am afraid it is rather outside my scope, is it not? Perhaps you could consider their return as sort of Canadian aid to their own country, but I think it is outside my scope to encourage them to go back. I have not thought of this and I do not think anyone in my organization has.

Q. I do not suggest there are a great many of them, but there is the difficulty of bringing their wives over. Their life is somewhat restricted in Canada because they are a different group entirely. They are very law abiding and are good citizens and I have no complaint whatever about them, but it seems to me there might be an opportunity for some of them to be encouraged to go back to their own country to become leaders in this new development which is taking place. My second question is this. I think you said that under capital assistance project 4, that ties where being sent to India. Are those Canadian ties?—A. Yes, they are wooden ties; wooden sleepers that came from the Vancouver area.

Q. Is there not a great deal of wood in India itself which is suitable for ties?—A. No sir, they import virtually all their ties.

Q. I thought they came from Burma?—A. At one time they did, but the entire Burmese economy was disrupted following the Japanese occupation. After the Japanese left they had several wars going on, if you remember and their economy was so upset that they were not exporting anything—not even rice. At one time they were the biggest exporters of rice in the whole east, but then it ceased. They have begun to export rice again, but they have not been able as yet to develop their timber resources.