

*Supply—Citizenship and Immigration*

was around \$56 and that is about £20 at the present depreciated value. He then said:

The cost of living in Canada is less than it is here and the average man can save 12 per cent of his weekly wage and still have a car, and so on.

The last figures I saw in regard to national savings in Canada showed a fraction over 11 per cent. He then said that education was under the provinces and it was free up to university standards. I admit that in most of our high schools you have to pay for your books. He was then quoted this morning as saying:

He can earn £17 a week without paying any tax at all. Income tax is about a third of what you would pay in England.

Obviously he was talking about income tax and I am sure any hon. member who wishes to do the mathematics involved would agree that a man can earn £17 in this country, if he is a married man, and not pay income tax. He then went on to say that there was no national health scheme but suggested there were many comparable services in the form of family allowances payable for each child including the first one. I think that is a purely factual statement of conditions in Canada and does not mislead anybody as to the facts here. However, I come back to my previous statement that I believe that these officers abroad, if they are to discharge the duties which most of us seem to favour, would want to leave with the people in the audience the impression that we want them to come here. When he went there to address them, he went there to encourage them to come to Canada but at the same time, he did not go there to misstate any pertinent facts or to misstate any facts at all.

The hon. member for Kootenay West spoke on behalf of himself and, I understand the hon. member for Winnipeg North in particular, with respect to alleged collaborators. I only want to add one comment to the consideration of this question. It is difficult to decide in post-war years the degree of responsibility for many things that are done. I have had that point brought to my attention forcibly since the hon. member for Winnipeg North mentioned this subject in the early winter. It must be remembered that these convictions, so-called, were all by methods they use in France for prosecuting people; there were convictions *in absentia*. They are interim judgments delivered in the absence of the person accused and are subject to review at the request of the person—

**Mr. Fulton:** Just like your immigration findings.

**Mr. Harris:** They are subject to review at the request of the person concerned when he learns about the conviction. One of these

[Mr. Harris.]

persons whose name was disclosed in the return made to the hon. member for Winnipeg North has since that return was made forwarded me a decision of a French court dissolving the conviction against him on the ground that there was no evidence and restoring to him whatever rights he had before the interim conviction. Therefore my hon. friend will not take it for granted that in all these cases the circumstances were as they might have appeared in the original transcript of the judgment. Following his practice, I will not mention the names of those concerned.

The leader of the C.C.F. party also spoke of the desire that we might use a certain organization abroad; that is, one particular labour organization. We do, of course, employ or use the services of the intergovernmental committee for European migration, as we call it, for the handling of refugees. We feel that we should not have too many of these organizations because there might be overlapping. Since there is one central organization to deal with all refugees, we have followed the practice of supporting that organization since the war. I think we ought to continue to do so. Nevertheless, the organization referred to by his correspondent, namely, the international free trade union group in Brussels, will be considered in order to see what they could add to our knowledge on the subject of immigration and the proceedings under it.

The hon. member for York South raised the question of trade unionism with regard to immigrants and I think I have disposed of that matter. He also spoke of the problem of those British subjects in the West Indies and of the answer we are going to make to the brief which was presented by the negro association of Toronto. I can only make this answer at the moment, Mr. Chairman. Upon receiving the brief we studied it. I examined the statistics with regard to these persons and I found that there has been a steady increase in the numbers of negroes from the West Indies being admitted to Canada. If we leave the present regulations as they are for the time being I think the numbers will probably increase in any event and that we shall have what I would consider to be a reasonably fair representation of these people in the flow of immigrants to Canada. I could place before the house the shifting changes in the numbers but I can assure hon. members that they are on the increase. In addition to the close relative groups who come in in almost every case I should not say as of right but nevertheless almost so, we have a special merit case and we have been using it with respect to these people.