

among Indians until 1936. At that time a survey was carried on in many of the Indian schools and revealed deplorable conditions. The vote was increased last year. It was \$300,000, and this year it is a little more. I can assure my hon. friend that the matter is receiving attention and that progress is being made.

Items 159 to 168 inclusive agreed to.

Immigration branch.

169. Administration of the Immigration Act and the Chinese Immigration Act, \$164,030.

170. Field and inspectional service, Canada, \$1,127,515.

171. Field and inspectional service, abroad, \$103,630.

172. Relief of distressed Canadians, outside Canada, \$10,000.

Mr. MacNICOL: As the sole representative of the Conservative party present, I might take a minute or two to speak of immigration, particularly in connection with one race. I am sure the heart of every hon. member has been touched by the terrible trials through which the Hebrew race has been going ever since the war broke out. The great mass of them that are still left in Europe will suffer as they have all through the ages. It is not for that mass that I speak at the moment because nothing I could say could help them.

The CHAIRMAN: The hon. gentleman is making general remarks. Does he wish to take items 169, 170, 171 and 172 together? Is that the pleasure of the committee?

Some hon. MEMBERS: Agreed.

Mr. MacNICOL: I speak for a few cases that came under my observation lately which have touched me very deeply. I have in mind a man who before the war is said to have been worth millions of dollars, a resident of Poland, owner of many large plants, who lived in a fine palace. Like other Hebrew residents of Poland, since the war broke out he has been despoiled. He fled first to Lithuania; after being subjected to all kinds of pilfering by agents of one kind and another, he at last succeeded in getting to Russia and, after being again pilfered there, he got to Japan and, I believe, is now in Japan. A friend of his came to see me, and I told him there was little I could do. But it brought to my mind the dreadful horrors which a large portion of a race that has contributed so much to this world is now enduring. I have in mind a mother who fled from Poland to France, then to Spain, then to Brazil; she has one daughter and two sons in Toronto, but it has been impossible for the sons and daughter to

obtain permission for the mother to come to Toronto. I mention these cases merely in the hope that the department may view with the greatest compassion the plight of some of these people who are asking to be permitted to come into this country. I can say for the Hebrew people of Toronto that they have contributed materially towards building up that city, from every point of view that may be considered.

Mr. COLDWELL: I agree with the remarks just made by the hon. member for Davenport. It is regrettable that people so far forget themselves as to vilify a whole race on account of the misdeeds of some of its members. After all, we have only to look among our own people to find many who are no credit to us.

I hope the immigration department will give heed to some of the representations that have been made on behalf of refugees. I know there is pressure from both sides, from those who wish to admit and those who wish to keep out, but as a Christian country I believe we ought to be practical in the application of our ideals and do what we can to assist those who have suffered in a cause for which we are at war. I noticed that in the British House of Commons the other day Miss Rathbone asked a question of Mr. Herbert Morrison with regard to the people who were picked up in a panic a year ago last summer and sent to Canada, asking if they were to be regarded as enemy aliens. Mr. Morrison replied by saying he was convinced that a large number of people had been picked up who ought not to have been, but that in the difficult situation in which they found themselves this was considered necessary in order to protect the country.

Many of those people came to Canada, and I know, as other hon. members do, that some steps have been taken in connection with them. We of the defence of Canada regulations committee had the privilege of hearing Mr. Patterson, his majesty's commissioner of prisons, who was here investigating these cases. I believe that about eight of these people, some of them boys, have been admitted to Canada in order to continue their education, and a large number can obtain permission to enter the United States provided they do not enter directly from an internment camp in this country. I hope it may be possible for this government to enter into some arrangement with the British authorities so that at least those who can get visas for entry into the United States if they are permitted a short residence in this country outside the internment camps, may be given permission to establish such residence in order that they