

## Supply—Legislation

the hon. members say and I shall be glad to have their representations from time to time.

**Mr. Garland:** Perhaps this might be an opportune or appropriate time to pay a compliment to Mr. Speaker for the excellent presentation he made on television the other evening with regard to this aspect of the matter.

**Mr. Aiken:** There is one matter which several visitors have mentioned to me. It concerns the sale of pamphlets at the base of the peace tower. Some of the visitors felt that after they have had a very nice tour of the building and were ready to depart, pamphlets were being hawked to them at the entrance to the memorial chamber.

This was earlier in the year. I did mention the matter to the Clerk, and I think the situation is much better now in that they are not being pushed. But I think we should give serious consideration to how far the protective staff should go in presenting these pamphlets so that it shall not appear that the public is paying for the privilege of the tour by buying a book.

**Mr. Bigg:** With the development of the north country an added burden is imposed on those members who serve this vast territory. We are not able to move around our constituencies without aeroplanes, because there are no roads and no railroads, and I simply point out that no special allowance is available to members who are obliged to use aeroplanes for this purpose. The problem does not affect a great many members, but it does impose a great burden on those who are concerned.

**Mr. Hardie:** Since the hon. member for Athabasca has brought up this subject of air travel and the difficulties experienced in covering these northern constituencies adequately, I must say I agree with him—I think this view would be shared by hon. members representing Meadow Lake, Peace River and other similar constituencies—that it is extremely difficult for a member of parliament to serve these northern constituencies to the same degree as urban constituencies are served by those who represent them. In my constituency, for instance, since this session will go on possibly for another two or three weeks, I understand—

**Mr. Argue:** A month.

**Mr. Hardie:**—maybe a month, or six weeks, then. In any event, the people in the northern half of my riding expect the same services of me as those who live in the southern area. Freeze-up comes any time after September 3, which means that if I am to cover that

riding I must leave here before the end of the session, arrive in Yellowknife, and charter an aircraft, which costs between 55 and 75 cents a mile, in order to reach these people in the north. I have to leave before the end of the session so that I can cover this part of my constituency on floats, take an aircraft that is equipped with pontoons and fly into the northern half of the riding before freeze-up. I think this would also apply in constituencies such as Athabasca, Peace River and Meadow Lake.

As I say, I feel the hon. member for Athabasca has raised a very good point. We are expected to serve our people to the same degree as other hon. members here. I heard the hon. member for York-Scarborough talking about the distribution of *Hansard*. *Hansard* may be mailed from here every day of the week, but copies only arrive once or twice a year in some parts of the constituencies which certain hon. members represent. Since the subject has been brought up I feel some special arrangement should be made whereby hon. members who represent constituencies such as mine should be allowed travelling expenses above and beyond those which are provided for by the legislation which now exists.

Most members of this house could, I am sure, cover their ridings by putting a full tank of gas in the car and driving around. But in my case—and I am sure this experience is shared by a number of hon. members opposite, both to my right and to my left—this is far from being possible. I return from here to Yellowknife, which is the central point. There I have to charter an aircraft costing, as I said, between 55 and 75 cents a mile. I leave Yellowknife and, if I want to do it the short way, I go to Hay River, Fort Providence, Jean Marie River, Fort Simpson, South Nahanni, Fort Liard—

**An hon. Member:** This is a travel logue.

**Mr. Hardie:** If I had so little to talk about as the hon. member for Vancouver, wherever it is—

**An hon. Member:** South.

**Mr. Hardie:** Well, it is south of nowhere, I will say that. If I have to cover my riding—and I have the same privilege in regard to the expense account as are allowed to other members of this house—I must go Hay River, Fort Providence, Jean Marie River, Fort Simpson, South Nahanni, Fort Liard, Fort Wrigley, Fort Norman, Fort Franklyn, back to Norman Wells, Good Hope, Arctic Red River, Fort McPherson and Aklavik, and along the coast from Aklavik to the radar station at Tuktoyaktuk, or, maybe, I would take the long route and back to Yellowknife.