

of the people of Canada and taking part in their citizenship. But the point which I wish to emphasize is that that condition of things is rapidly passing away. What the hon. member says is only partly true. Among these people we have some of the finest people in Manitoba to-day. I think I owe it to my constituents to make that statement.

Mr. ROSS (Kingston): In what year did these Mennonites move away?

Mr. BROWN: They moved away largely three or four years ago.

Mr. ROSS (Kingston): Is that not since the hon. member became member for that district?

Mr. BROWN: They were moving away just at that time. They were the least intelligent ones who moved away.

Mr. SPENCER: Why did they move away?

Mr. BROWN: They were what we call the "Old Colony" Mennonites who refused to conform to the school laws of Manitoba and for conscience sake—and I think they were very much mistaken—they migrated to Mexico.

Item agreed to.

Amount required for soldier land settlement advances and cost of administration of soldier settlement	\$1,475,000
Amount required for general land settlement advances and cost of administration of general land settlement	1,900,000
	\$3,375,000

The CHAIRMAN: Shall this item carry? Carried.

Mr. GARDINER: Who said that this item was carried? It has not even been discussed.

The CHAIRMAN: I did.

Mr. GARDINER: I wish to protest against this method of conducting business. We were discussing the immigration estimates and while that discussion was going on, no one heard you call this item. In fact you are not entitled to pass these items as long as the discussion is going on.

The CHAIRMAN: I certainly called vote No. 288, and I gave the amount.

Mr. GARDINER: I suggest that we have a reasonable pause between the carrying of one item and the calling of the next one.

The CHAIRMAN: I am sure my hon. friend will realize that it is now five o'clock and we have passed only two items to-day, so that there must have been a pause somewhere.

Mr. GARDINER: Are we going to discuss item 288?

Mr. ROBB: Yes.

Mr. KELLNER: In connection with the activities undertaken by the department in the way of providing ready-made farms, for instance drilling wells, breaking land and constructing buildings, is that provided for by calling for tenders, or how are the contracts let?

Mr. FORKE: By tender.

Mr. KELLNER: On the Saddle lake reserve how much breaking has been contracted for, and at what price per acre?

Mr. FORKE: Forty acres and 51 units. That will be forty times fifty-one. The price is roughly \$5.50 per acre, the land to be disced once.

Mr. GARDINER: Has the government come to any conclusion regarding taxes on soldier settlement lands now owned by the board? This is a very important matter in connection with western Canada.

Mr. FORKE: Some little time ago a delegation from the three prairie provinces representing the municipal unions met a committee of the government and entered into negotiations. I think we came to an amicable settlement whereby from now on there will be no further dispute in regard to the taxes on soldier settlement land.

Mr. GARDINER: The Soldier Settlement board have under their control certain lands which are leased. What is the policy with regard to those lands that are leased to private persons?

Mr. FORKE: The rental has always gone first to pay the taxes.

Mr. GARDINER: The minister means that a portion of the rent received by the Soldier Settlement board is used to pay taxes on the land.

Mr. FORKE: I know since I have come into the department I have received thanks for the amount of money the municipalities have been paid in connection with taxes on leased lands.

Mr. GARDINER: The reason I ask the question is because I have received com-