

Supply—Labour

Mr. Gregg: I left unanswered one question when the committee rose before one o'clock, as to the development of the apprenticeship training. I think I could answer it briefly this wise. In the seven provinces with whom we have agreements there are three times as many registered for apprenticeship training as there were in 1945.

Mrs. Fairclough: How many are there?

Mr. Gregg: About 10,800. After 1945 there were two or three years in which it was inflated, owing to veterans training. Then it decreased in 1949, and since 1949 has been on the increase.

Mrs. Fairclough: I presume these apprentices are all registered in their respective trades, are they?

Mr. Gregg: Yes.

Item agreed to.

Vocational Training Co-ordination Act, 1942—

195. Payments to the provinces for capital expenditures for vocational schools, buildings and equipment, \$1,250,000.

Mrs. Fairclough: With respect to this item there was an appropriation of \$2,250,000, in 1950-51, of which it is expected that \$1,379,000 will be spent. Can the minister say why the appropriation was not used? Is it the old story of lack of building materials?

Mr. Gregg: This was a building program for vocational training. It has been pretty well completed. During the years preceding there had been a very heavy program, and this was all that it was felt the provinces and the federal government needed to fill the needs.

Mrs. Fairclough: Then we overestimated last year?

Mr. Gregg: It was overestimated last year in the estimates.

Item agreed to.

Government employees compensation—

196. Administration of the Government Employees Compensation Act, \$59,716.

Mr. Macdonnell (Greenwood): I notice there is a substantial increase. Will the minister say a word with regard to that?

Mr. Gregg: This is to take care of the administration of the employees compensation act for those employees of Canada not under provincial government administration. The Government Employees Compensation Act, 1947, chapter 18, Statutes of Canada, 1947, which replaces the former act, chapter 30, Revised Statutes of Canada 1927, provides compensation where employees of His Majesty

are killed or suffer injuries or industrial diseases while performing their duties, at the same rate as is provided for employees of persons other than His Majesty under the law of the province in which the accidents occur, the liability for and the amount of compensation to be determined by the authority established under such law, which is usually the provincial workmen's compensation board.

Mr. Macdonnell (Greenwood): I thought the minister spoke about this as applying particularly to cases outside provincial jurisdiction.

Mr. Gregg: No; I was in error in giving that impression, Mr. Chairman. It applies to persons serving the federal government within provincial jurisdiction.

Mr. Macdonnell (Greenwood): I understand that they are not under the provincial compensation board; nevertheless they are cases that are dealt with substantially on the same basis.

Mr. Gregg: That is correct.

Mrs. Fairclough: Are they not dealt with by the provincial board, and then this government reimburses the board?

Mr. Gregg: That is right. The provincial boards act as the agent of the federal government for the purpose of the federal government employees.

Item agreed to.

Terminable services—

199. To provide for payment to the national film board for educational films for exhibition, \$24,000.

Mr. Knowles: I am sure the minister would be glad to hear me say that one of the films that was produced for his department that some of us saw in the railway committee room some time ago was particularly well done. I do not say that to make any comparison with the others, but I have in mind the film on labour-management co-operation. I thank the minister for arranging for members of parliament to see that film. I should like to suggest, however, that he arrange a special showing of the film for certain people who might gain from it. I have in mind the members of the civil service commission, perhaps the treasury board and deputy ministers, and all those who have to do with employee relations in the federal government service.

I will not say any more. I will simply say that I think there is room for improvement in management-labour relations in the government service, and that it might be all to the good if the people concerned saw this film.