

*Interim Supply*

to obtaining agreement between them as to who should be awarded the disability pension. I know people in my own constituency who are unable to earn their bread and butter and who are unable to draw a pension under the act.

I also wish to draw to the attention of the government the fact that in the Red river valley we are having trouble getting our boats out to the lake. This is a matter which requires immediate attention because the men in Selkirk and in various towns around the lake depend on the boats bringing in the fish for their livelihood. I appeal to the Minister of Public Works to do something about this very soon.

We will have to have a survey at the end of the lake. Perhaps if the department investigates the situation it will be decided that a better outlet could be provided. There are quite a few outlets at the mouth of the river and perhaps it would be desirable to open up a new one to prevent the boats being held up for eight or nine hours when entering with a load of fish.

I am not going to take up the time of the committee in speaking at length and I have no wish to delay the rest of the debate. However, I am not going to say I do not want results from my plea because I do want results, if you please.

**Mr. Nicholson:** Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I could have the ear of the Minister of Public Works for a moment in his capacity as Acting Prime Minister and, I presume, Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs. I am not sure whether the minister was in the house this morning when the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway made his excellent maiden speech in which he urged the Prime Minister to give careful consideration to the question of recognizing the government of the mainland of China.

The hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway indicated that he expected Vancouver to become the principal city in Canada some day, and if we would face up to the potential trade with the vast area of the world that is close to Canada it would establish the right of the city of Vancouver to become one of the largest Canadian cities. Because of the situation of our trade position today and because of the large number of people in China who are potential customers the government of Canada might follow the pattern of the British government rather than the pattern of Washington and try to promote trade with China.

As the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway pointed out, the recognition of the government of China does not mean the approval of what has happened in that country. I think the time has come now, because of the large

volume of commodities that are piling up in Canada, when we should explore potential trade with China. I wonder whether the Acting Prime Minister would give some indication that his government are prepared to change the attitude of the previous government of Canada on this important question.

**Mr. McMillan:** Mr. Chairman, I have always been interested in national hospital insurance. I am sure that most of the people of Canada are greatly interested in this matter, and particularly those connected with hospitals. I would respectfully ask the Minister of Finance, or the Minister of National Health and Welfare to answer some of the questions that were asked in the debate today.

**Mr. Herridge:** It was not my intention to speak again in this debate but I am moved to do so by the matter which was brought before the committee by the hon. member for Nanaimo. I heartily support his remarks with respect to the immigration of certain United States workers into Canada, because the same situation has existed in southeastern British Columbia in the building of the pipe line, which the hon. member so ably described. I have had a number of cases brought to my attention where these men freely admitted to fellow workers that they came in as landed immigrants and our immigration officials knew nothing about it. They work on the pipe line until it is completed and return to the United States. In addition to that, there are others coming in as visitors. I know our immigration officials are doing the very best they can in the circumstances but certainly some amendment to the regulations is required in order to correct the situation.

The immigration officials in the ports in British Columbia are keeping a very close watch on this situation. I told them these immigrants were coming from somewhere else and they discovered that quite a number of these chaps were coming in through Coutts, I think it is, in Alberta. Whichever way they come in, it is difficult for the immigration officials to do anything about it when they come in as landed immigrants. I was very interested in a story which one immigration official told me. A Texan came in and he had a gun on each hip. He was told he could not bring his weapons into Canada and he said he had never been separated from his shooting irons at any time in his life before. Anyway he was persuaded to leave them on the desk in the immigration office and the immigration officer had a peek through the barrels and found that both of them were plugged with rust. This is a sample of the importance of the attitude of mind in understanding Canadian procedures. I do urge that an amendment be considered.