

Supply—External Affairs

NATO, where there are a number of French-speaking countries, or perhaps we might consider student exchanges between Latin America and French Canada.

Besides, it should not be restricted to French Canadians, but should be open to all Canadians, whether English- or French-speaking, wishing to get closer to French cultural centres. I am sure the Minister of Finance will give the matter careful consideration, in view of the true friendliness he has always shown to Canada's French language cultural group.

(Text):

Item agreed to.

647. Gift of uranium to the international atomic energy agency, \$61,842.

Mr. Pearson: Mr. Chairman, this vote represents a gift of uranium to the international atomic energy agency. Would the minister give some indication as to what other gifts of uranium were made to this international agency by other governments?

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): Mr. Chairman, Canada made the one gift in this case. A request was made by Japan for three tons of natural uranium metal. That request was made to the international atomic energy agency. Canada offered to provide the entire amount and that offer was accepted.

Mr. Pearson: I am not objecting to this vote, Mr. Chairman, and indeed, I support it. I think it was a good thing to have done, but the fact that we are the only government that has taken this action is interesting because the United States which is also a large producer of uranium has been making gifts of enriched uranium to other countries in connection with the building of reactors in these countries. Indeed, I believe United States policy has been to assist these countries in the construction of reactors of a type which can use only the kind of enriched uranium that is made in the United States and not in Canada. It is an interesting contrast, if you like, that we are making our gifts of uranium to the international agency without any commercial considerations attached to them—nor should there be, of course—while the United States seems to be making gifts of enriched uranium which we do not produce to individual countries in connection with reactors being built in those countries, sometimes at the expense of the United States.

Item agreed to.

[Mr. Dorion.]

648. Expenses in connection with Canada's participation in the world refugee year and, notwithstanding section 35 of the Financial Administration Act, to authorize payments to be made pursuant to this vote up to the 1st day of April, 1961; there shall be charged to this vote and included in the unexpended balance of vote 55 of the main estimates, 1959-60, an amount equal to the amount spent and charged to that vote in connection with the world refugee year, \$600,000.

Mr. Pickersgill: Mr. Chairman, I should like to recall to the committee that when we were discussing world refugee year in the last session of parliament I reminded hon. members that the government of Canada just before the Hungarian uprising had had a survey made by a senior officer of the immigration branch and a senior officer of the citizenship branch of the refugee camps in Europe with a view to seeing whether we could not on our own do something more than was then being done about reducing the population of these camps, and that by a curious coincidence I was on the verge of making certain recommendations to my colleagues when we were overwhelmed by the Hungarian problem and the matter was left in abeyance for the time being. I confess that I regret to have to say I never had another opportunity to make those recommendations.

Meanwhile, of course, the suggestion came for a general approach to this problem under the aegis of the United Nations commissioner for refugees in the form of world refugee year. We are all very pleased to hear the announcement the other day that the movement of the 100 families had been so successful and had cost so much less than was anticipated that the government proposed to make some extension of that program. When I have concluded perhaps the minister would tell us what numbers he envisages would be included in this extension. I am not going to urge at this time that there should be any very large increase in the strictly governmental participation in this scheme because I believe that the concrete and constructive suggestions I intend to make would in fact be preferable.

As soon as it was published I carefully examined the little booklet prepared by the Department of Citizenship and Immigration setting out the conditions for the admission of unsponsored and sponsored refugees to Canada. In most respects it seems to me these conditions are highly satisfactory. There is one of these conditions that has so far seemed to be an obstacle to one single refugee being brought to this country under private sponsorship. I should like to read that requirement to the committee. The requirement is that the sponsor must—and then