

Education

interests me. Will the minister inform the committee whether any of this vote is being used for the restoration of steamers on the Yukon river?

Mr. Dinsdale: No, Mr. Chairman. Nothing under this item is used for that purpose. The money voted under this item is used entirely for winter works.

Mr. Herridge: It is not for any project of that kind?

Mr. Dinsdale: No, it is exclusively our winter works program.

Mr. Pickersgill: Mr. Chairman, I wish to say something briefly that is quite relevant to winter works. I had some correspondence with the minister about the employment policy in the Terra Nova national park. I was rather disappointed that the minister to whose letter I admit I have not had time up to now to give a considered reply, because it was a long letter which I suspect the minister had a lot of help in writing, which I do not have—

Mr. Dinsdale: I did it all myself.

Mr. Pickersgill: The minister is straining my credulity. I am not saying I do not believe him but I do not think he expects me to believe him because I do not think he means his statement to be taken seriously.

The minister questioned something I had said about the attitude taken by his predecessor. Although I do not wish to waste any time over this I should like to put a brief reference on *Hansard*. I can give the minister a couple of the references at pages 3536 and 3558 of *Hansard* of August 14, 1958. I shall read the briefest reference to be found at page 3559 which is a follow up of the earlier references. As I said, I do not wish to take a lot of the time of the committee in raising this question. Although it is a local matter it is one of great importance in the locality.

I was addressing the minister's predecessor, the present Minister of Agriculture, with respect to special preferences in employment in the park and the following exchange occurred as recorded at page 3559:

Mr. Pickersgill: Perhaps the minister would not mind my interrupting him. He does intend to carry out the policy of giving special preference to those people who made their living previously by cutting in the park, as he told Mr. Keough he would?

Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle): Yes. I believe that was satisfactorily stated this afternoon.

The point I wish to make is that that assurance had been given by the minister's predecessors. I have looked up the earlier references and can summarize them much more quickly than I can place them on the record by quoting them. What had taken place before the present government came into office

was largely verbal. I placed that statement on the record. That seems to have been the situation that was accepted by the minister's predecessor and it was well understood in the area.

I know the minister is anxious to do the right thing in this matter. I am not attempting to be at all contentious about this. I wish merely to point out that what I said had a basis in what happened right here in the house.

The Chairman: Order. It being five o'clock, so that the house may proceed to the consideration of private members' business, pursuant to section 3 of standing order 15, it is my duty to rise, report progress and request leave to sit again later this day or at the next sitting of the house as the case may be.

Item stands.

Progress reported.

Resolutions adopted in committee of supply this day reported and concurred in.

Mr. Speaker: It being five o'clock the house will now proceed to the consideration of private members' business as listed on today's order paper, namely, notices of motions.

EDUCATION

REQUEST FOR GREATER FEDERAL ASSISTANCE IN CO-OPERATION WITH PROVINCES

Mr. M. D. Morton (Davenport) moved:

That a special committee of this house, the membership of which to be designated later, be appointed to study how greater assistance for education can be given by the government of Canada within the provisions of the British North America Act and in co-operation with the provinces.

He said: Mr. Speaker, it was about five years ago that this resolution was placed on the order paper and this is the first opportunity I have had to present it to the house. In presenting this resolution I realize that we may be treading on difficult ground perhaps because of the differences of opinion that surround the question of the role the federal government might play in the field of education. I should like to emphasize that this resolution primarily involves the setting up of a committee to study the problem of education within Canada and to make such recommendations as could be carried out within the terms of the British North America Act and in co-operation with the provinces.

Perhaps the most serious criticism of the resolution would be that this house is not the proper forum to set up a committee of this kind and that if such a committee were set up it should not consist of members of the house but of experts outside the house. All I