

Supply—Labour

The other two votes cover cases in much the same category.

Item agreed to.

Terminable services—

713. To provide for expenses that may be incurred in the arranging for and the movement of workers from outside Canada to work on farms and other essential industry in Canada when Canadian labour is not available to meet the need; including costs connected with the supervision and welfare of persons already immigrated to Canada under former authorized labour movements and administrative expenses connected therewith—further amount required, \$131,200.

Mr. Knowles: This item is to provide a further amount for the same purpose as was set out under vote No. 200 in the main estimates. I note that in the break-down in the back of the book this item of \$131,200 includes \$100,000 for transportation costs. If I might refer for a moment to item 200, which was for a total of \$667,956, I note that it includes transportation costs to the extent of \$200,000. Between the two items, the total amount of transportation costs is \$300,000. I take it that that is money that is spent in providing the actual transportation for immigrants to Canada under the provisions of this vote. Can the minister tell me how much of that \$300,000 is being spent on bringing workers to Canada to be employed by or at the instance of the Manitoba Sugar Company?

Mr. Gregg: First of all, Mr. Chairman, that amount is not to bring workers to Canada. That is done under immigration arrangements. This amount is to assist workers to move within Canada, from eastern Canada to other parts of Canada. My advisers have not here with them information as to the portion of that amount used for the purpose my hon. friend mentioned, but if he will permit me to do so, I shall be glad to send that information to him by mail.

Mr. Knowles: Do the minister's officials happen to have the amounts for persons destined for Manitoba? Most of them would be for the Manitoba Sugar Company.

Mr. Gregg: I am sorry to say that we have not that information here, but we can get it and provide it for the hon. member.

Mr. Knowles: I would appreciate that. I just want to make this one comment that occurs to me as a result of what the minister has said. As I made clear previously, my whole concern about this matter is that the Manitoba Sugar Company should accept its responsibility. But it now appears that these people whom the Manitoba Sugar Company wants brought here get assistance through the Department of Citizenship and Immigration to reach Canadian shores, and then they

[Mr. Gregg.]

get assistance through the Department of Labour to get from the port at which they land to a place like Manitoba.

Mr. Gregg: Of course a great many of these people were known as—and this is a term we are trying to get away from—displaced persons from camps in central Europe, and have no means at all by which to get to Canada or to get anywhere in Canada after they arrive here. I should augment what I said about their arrival in Canada. They are earmarked by our member of the immigration team in Europe, before they leave Europe, for work in some portion of Canada, in groups. Consequently, when they arrive at the point of landing we are able to give them assistance in getting to a place where their work is waiting for them. What my hon. friend refers to as happening in Manitoba is happening in all the provinces.

Mr. Knowles: I just want to make it clear that I quite agree with the steps that we are taking in terms of providing a refuge and a new home for these people. I am glad for every humanitarian step that Canada takes along these lines. The point I wish to make is this. In view of the fact that some of these people are being brought here not only because of the humanitarian interest that we as a nation have, but because of the wish of certain private employers who get quite an advantage out of it, I think the private employers concerned should measure up to their responsibilities as well.

Mr. Gregg: I should have added, with respect to those known as displaced persons, that IRO paid their expenses to Canada; but of course we contributed.

Mr. Knowles: Yes; we also contributed.

Item agreed to.

Terminable services—

714. To authorize the Minister of Labour to arrange for a program of rehabilitation for the physically handicapped, including the appointment of an advisory committee, and to provide for expenditures in connection therewith, \$48,000.

Mrs. Fairclough: This is the item to which I referred a few moments ago, with respect to the appointment of a committee. The item reads in part: "... including the appointment of an advisory committee." I hope the minister will put a big red mark opposite this item on his diary, and, when the committee is appointed, make sure that there is on it a woman representative or women representatives, depending on the size of the committee.

Mr. Gregg: I can reassure my hon. friend on that point.

Item agreed to.