

substantially the same as last year. In addition, there will be a large number in Saskatchewan.

Mr. BRYCE: I have received a petition from the Stonewall district in my constituency where the people have trouble in getting the national film board to include Stonewall in their circuit. Stonewall is only twenty miles from Winnipeg. The trouble seems to be that to show the national film board's films would infringe upon a franchise held by a commercial exhibitor. The national film board exhibits its films free of charge. They are of an educational nature, and I would ask the minister to see if the local women's clubs and other groups cannot be allowed to see these educational pictures which are not now shown in Stonewall. They are shown in Winnipeg, where there is any amount of commercial pictures, but apparently there is an agreement between the national film board and the film industry that the film board will not exhibit its films within ten miles of a commercial motion-picture house. I think our farm people have the right to see the film board's pictures in the local school house or the community hall, where there is no charge, because the film board renders that service to the community free. That should not be prevented by the whims of any commercial organization. It is the right of the people to have an opportunity to see these educational films, and they should not be deprived of that right.

Mr. McCANN: That matter is being canvassed, and the suggestion which the hon. member has made will be taken into consideration.

Mr. GILLIS: I wish to pursue a little farther the question raised by the hon. member for Saskatoon City. I was not quite satisfied with the minister's answer, which was to the effect that during the war considerable visual education was carried on in war industries and that now it was not necessary to carry on that work to stimulate morale. I notice by the details that there is a decrease of \$30,000, and it would appear that visual education given among the trades unions is to be discontinued entirely. At least there is no money shown here for that purpose. If that is so, I shall have a little more to say.

Mr. McCANN: I do not think that is correct.

Mr. GILLIS: There is no mention of it here, and the minister has already stated that the showing of films in war industries was not being continued. I think that was one of the important features of your educational

work, and that now, at this period, it is more important than it was during the war. Am I correct in assuming that you are discontinuing all their union education?

Mr. McCANN: No.

Mr. GILLIS: I am not correct? There is nothing in this vote for it.

Mr. McCANN: No. I am informed that we are developing a much more cooperative scheme with the trade union people than we have had.

Mr. GILLIS: If that is so, I am quite satisfied. I understand there is something in supplementary estimates.

Mr. McCANN: Yes. That is what I said. Item agreed to.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

356. Departmental administration, \$106,210.

Mr. HERRIDGE: I wish to make a few remarks on this item, although I will try to condense them because of the other business which we wish to get done. What I have to say is in connection with the Doukhobors of Kootenay West.

I think most hon. members know that some time during 1898 and 1899 some 7,600 Doukhobors came to this country and settled in the prairie provinces, after negotiations between their representatives and representatives of the Canadian government. Commencing about 1902, a more extreme sect of the Doukhobors known as the Sons of Freedom commenced to give trouble not only to Peter Verigin, their leader, but some trouble in the district in which they were located, and about the fall of 1907 this culminated in somewhat less than 100 making a trek to Fort William and staying there doing casual jobs until the winter months, and then, on January 1, 1908, staging a nude parade in Fort William. There was some discussion of the matter between Peter Verigin, who disowned what he termed "these mad brothers", and the dominion government, and finally the dominion government returned these Sons of Freedom in two Canadian Pacific colonist cars to Yorkton. The Doukhobor community continued to grow, causing the authorities and Peter Verigin the first, some difficulties. They refused to register births, marriages or deaths and to comply with the Homestead Act of the Dominion of Canada. So Peter Verigin began to look for another district to take them to—the promised land—and came out to Kootenay West, surveyed the country, realized that it was one of the most beautiful districts in Canada, and decided