

*Supply—Labour*

expanded. It is proposed that the present assistance now being given to the provinces under the Vocational Training Co-ordination Act be extended to include a new training schedule for the disabled. In this connection my colleague, the Minister of National Health and Welfare, on Friday, May 1 set out on page 4682 of *Hansard* his department's far-reaching proposals designed to extend facilities for medical rehabilitation. I suggest that all members interested read once more what he said there, because his program outlined there and the smaller one I have set out here are matched together under a committee under the recommendations of the advisory council I mentioned, and are designed to bring together in this way the provinces and all the voluntary organizations I mentioned in one united effort.

While these provisions are essential to help round out a rehabilitation program, the whole purpose and direction will be lost unless the various contributions that governments and private agencies can make are properly tied together. A team is being evolved that will reduce the period and extent of disability, and enable the nation to benefit from the fullest possible utilization of the latent skills of the disabled. It will help especially to enrich the lives of many of our fellow Canadians who have been disabled, and who have felt neglected.

Now, on the matter of decreases, the largest amount is under vocational training. This is not an indication that the government is any less interested in this important program. We are more interested in it than ever before, because Canada's need for skilled workers is greater than ever before. The decrease in the vote is due to projects of a capital nature having been completed. These completed projects account for the full amount of the reduction. The government is still assisting the provinces in providing youth training, apprenticeship training, which has gone forward with new vigour this last year, foremanship and supervisory training, and other classes which will assist in bringing skilled trades into our labour markets. It is also proposed to continue the payment of annual grants to relieve the provinces of a portion of the operational expenses of vocational schools.

The other comparatively large decrease is under vote 195, the movement of workers from outside Canada to work on farms and in other essential industry in Canada. We are asking for \$110,000 less for 1953-54 than was voted in 1952-53. This is possible because of smaller group movements and easier shipping conditions which will enable movements

to be controlled to meet seasonal demands and thus avoid off-season maintenance costs.

I come now to labour-management relations, vote 182. There is practically no change in this vote, which is for the conciliation service. I wanted to mention one or two points with regard to it, because perhaps it is the most important single division of our work. Fifty-four cases were dealt with by conciliation officers under the Industrial Relations and Disputes Investigation Act during the fiscal year 1952-53. Of these 54 cases, settlements were secured in 30 cases by the conciliation officers' co-operation. Out of a total of 37 disputes dealt with by the conciliation boards, 23 settlements had been secured by March 31. Of the remainder, 8 disputes were still in the hands of the boards at that date, and in 4 other cases board reports had been received and were under consideration. Apart from the cases in process as mentioned, in only 2 cases dealt with were settlements not achieved during the fiscal year, and in only one of these cases did strike action occur. This, of course, was the dispute that ended recently in British Columbia.

Now we come to the unemployment insurance commission. Administration costs show an increase of \$504,523. This is made up of increases in salaries, higher rents, increased stationery, supplies and equipment, and for alterations, maintenance and repairs of buildings housing commission offices.

The item for the transfer of labour to and from places where employment is available shows a decrease of \$125,000 from the previous year. This is due to a readjustment whereby the Department of Labour made provision for the interprovincial transfer of workers under dominion-provincial farm labour agreements heretofore provided by the unemployment insurance commission. Through the readjustment of these services under one appropriation, a saving of \$60,000 has been effected.

In considering administration costs of the unemployment insurance program, it is essential to remember that these cover both insurance and placement activities. There has been a tendency sometimes to consider the amount that is paid out in cash benefits and take certain percentages of that amount for administration costs and say that is a very high percentage of administration costs; and so it would be if those administration costs were to cover only the paying out, book-keeping, accounting and processing of the insurance itself. But that administration cost also covers the entire cost of the placement