

conditions at Long Branch. I am not aware of the first matter to which the hon. gentleman referred at Pickering, but we will look into it immediately.

Item agreed to.

MISCELLANEOUS GRANTS

236. Victorian Order of Nurses, \$13,100.

Mr. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): Under one of these items I wanted to ask the minister if the government has given any consideration to granting a larger amount to one of these organizations, the health league or some other, to extend the work which has been done and which greatly needs to be done in reference to the combating of venereal disease. I have seen the results of some private surveys which have been made in some of our larger cities, and if the figures I have seen are correct the increase in venereal disease has been startling. I wonder if the minister has given any consideration to increasing the amount of money made available to meet this condition.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre): That has been done this year. For the last several years an item of \$50,000 was provided for the distribution of arsenicals. That has been supplemented this year by a special vote of \$175,000, making a total of \$225,000, which I think is the most we have ever voted for this purpose.

Mr. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): The campaign is being carried on by whom?

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre): Under Colonel Williams; under government sponsorship.

Item agreed to.

Health branch—

500. Financial assistance to the provinces under the National Fitness Act, \$225,000.

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre): I would ask my colleague to move an amendment to this item.

Mr. BERTRAND (Laurier): I move.

That the word "physical" be inserted between the words "national" and "fitness".

Amendment agreed to.

Item as amended agreed to.

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES

466. To provide for the replacement of the Gaspé peninsula fisheries experimental station, \$45,000.

Mr. GRAYDON: Would the minister explain this item?

Hon. ERNEST BERTRAND (Minister of Fisheries): Our fisheries experimental station at this point was burned.

Item agreed to.

SOLDIER SETTLEMENT OF CANADA

336. Administration of soldier settlement and British family settlement, \$542,930.

Mr. FAIR: Shall we call it one o'clock, or go on?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Perhaps hon. members would be agreeable to the having the house resume its sitting at two o'clock, by unanimous consent, this would enable us to be a little more certain as to the time of adjournment.

At one o'clock the committee took recess.

The committee resumed at two o'clock.

Mr. FAIR: Perhaps I shall have a chance, after three attempts, to say a few words on this question. Yesterday afternoon, just before the dinner recess, we started to discuss this matter, but the departments were switched, I believe for the convenience of the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Fournier). At five minutes after one o'clock we were able to get back on this subject and I hope we shall be able to finish it up at this time. As I pointed out yesterday, we are fighting the greatest war in history, but I feel we are neglecting a number of the men who fought in the last war. Since coming to the house in 1935, I, along with the group to which I belong, have continually advocated that something more should be done for the men who went overseas to fight the battles of the last war. I think we all realize that had it not been for those men who fought in the last war, and were it not for those who are fighting in this war, we would not be able to sit here in comfort and discuss the matters we have discussed up to the present time.

The practice, in both the past and the present war, has been to recruit a number of men from the farms—in this war we are recruiting a number of women as well—to take part in the struggle at home and abroad. At the conclusion of the last war there were over 72,000 men who wanted to settle on the land. After quite a sifting out, we were able to settle 25,017 of these men. Those hon. members who were farming at that time will recall that when this settlement took place we had high land prices, high stock prices, high machinery prices; everything that went into the building up of a settler's home was at the very peak. Credit was extended to these soldiers to set themselves up, but on account of the policy which has been followed since that time in connection with agriculture these men have been faced with a condition over which they had absolutely no control.