

*Supply—External Affairs*

I would not think this was the time for me to indicate what those solutions might be, but we are satisfied that during the past 12 months there has been evidence the problem is being looked at in the light in which the hon. member mentions it, rather than in the light of maintenance.

Item agreed to.

573. Contribution to the United Nations Korean reconstruction agency, \$500,000.

**Mr. Knowles:** In a general way may I express approval of each of these grants we are dealing with under this heading. May I also ask one or two questions regarding this item. Can the minister tell us in what form this contribution is made, and the total amount we have given toward relief and rehabilitation in Korea under various headings? Also, can he tell us how it is administered when it gets to Korea?

**Mr. Harris:** I regret very much that I will not be able to answer all the questions. I should add, however, that this is one of the items which, upon consideration this year, we decided ought to be continued for another year because of the special problems existing in Korea. I think my hon. friend realizes that, without boastfulness, we have probably contributed quite substantially to this program, having in mind any other contributions that have been made. I notice that in 1951 we contributed \$7,250,000, and that we have made contributions since. I think my hon. friend also remembers that a citizen of our country was on this commission.

**Mr. Knowles:** King Gordon?

**Mr. Harris:** And a man from Sarnia. We feel, however, that this matter probably is reaching the point where other influences may enter into the solution of the problem; but having in mind the rehabilitation that is still needed, we believe we should still continue to contribute to the extent indicated here. In most cases it consists of purchases of Canadian goods and their shipment to Korea.

**Mr. Knowles:** Can the minister say a further word? I notice in the main estimates for 1955-56, at page 188, it is indicated that an appropriation of this kind is not to be made, although \$300,000 was appropriated in 1954-55. From what he said a moment ago in explanation of this item in the supplementary estimates, do I take it that this item is taking the place of the item that was in the main estimates last year, but which apparently it was decided not to include in main estimates for 1955-56?

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**Mr. Harris:** Yes, this item is to complete the program that we agreed to in 1951 and have carried out, subject to this payment being made.

**Mr. Knowles:** According to the description of the item last year, it was given in Canadian fish. Is it fish again this year, or does the minister know?

**Mr. Harris:** No, I have not the information. Item agreed to.

574. To provide for a gift of fish as a contribution to hurricane relief for Haiti, \$25,000.

**Mr. Nesbitt:** I note that this item is to provide for a gift of fish as a contribution to hurricane relief for Haiti. What type of fish was it? Was it codfish, canned salmon or sardines?

**Mr. Harris:** Codfish, and a little bit of flour.

**Mr. Nesbitt:** Was Haiti consulted as to the type of relief they wanted.

**Mr. Harris:** Yes.

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Where were these fish purchased? Were these the fish that created something of an incident recently, when the government had a large amount of fish on hand and no place to dispose of it? Was this where it came from?

**Mr. Harris:** I am afraid if this is a joke I do not understand it.

**Mr. Knowles:** The Minister of Fisheries should know.

**Mr. Sinclair:** We have no fish on hand.

**Mr. Bell:** Have we some sort of general policy regarding the purchase of these gifts? It looks as though they are to be a continuing thing. Is there some sort of general policy, or is general consideration given to the areas where the fish may be obtained? Are they surplus products on the coast from which they come?

**Mr. Harris:** In this particular case there were three different items, codfish, flour and potatoes. Haiti was consulted, and in the end codfish and a little flour were decided on. Each of these decisions is made at the time it arises. If the government decides to contribute some form of relief, naturally we make the contribution which would be appropriate and most needed at the time.

**Mr. Nesbitt:** I have one further question in that regard. When gifts are made for relief to another country, such as this, are concentrated milk products, powdered milk and so on, considered?

**Mr. Harris:** On several occasions we have given powdered milk and other products as