

Supply—Trade and Commerce

with private industry. I saw the man in charge of research for Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company. Their starting salary for research workers is \$395 per month. They said they would take on ten immediately at this salary if the men were available. It seems that men starting with the national research council, with that sort of qualification, would not be getting that sort of salary.

Mr. Howe (Port Arthur): Pretty well.

Mr. Herridge: Mr. Chairman, everyone recognizes the excellent work of the national research council. There is no question about it, its reputation stands high. But I have heard some criticism from persons in academic life and in other responsible spheres of activity of the opportunities for Canadian graduates with respect to employment in the national research council and with respect to fellowships.

I have no idea whether there is any foundation for that criticism. I am just bringing it to the attention of the minister. I should like him to let the committee know whether all the permanent staff of the national research council are Canadian citizens. Can he inform the committee how the fellowships are granted and what percentage of the fellowships that are in existence today in the council are being exercised by Canadian citizens who are graduates of Canadian universities, or citizens of the British commonwealth, or citizens of other countries?

Mr. Howe (Port Arthur): Mr. Chairman, the grants by the national research council in aid of research amount to \$1,497,000 and for scholarships, \$834,000; but these are by no means the only scholarships that are available from federal government funds. Other branches of the government offer fellowships and scholarships. For instance, the Department of National Health and Welfare offers them. I think our contribution is quite liberal for that sort of higher education.

Mr. Herridge: The question I was particularly interested in was this. Are all the employees of the national research council Canadian citizens?

Mr. Howe (Port Arthur): The only exception from employment of Canadians is where a scientist is required for special work and cannot be found in Canada. A few have been taken in on that basis.

Mr. Dinsdale: Mr. Chairman, I want to speak very briefly on this subject of research, mainly because of some of the comments that have been made here this afternoon in reference to the committee that was supposed to have been set up this session. I realize that

any discussion at this stage on the general item is rather a poor substitute for the type of discussion that would have been carried on had parliament been able to go through with its original intentions. However, I would assure the senior member for Halifax that actually there is no division of opinion among members of this group—

Mr. Dickey: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order—

Mr. Dinsdale: —on this subject.

Mr. Dickey: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman; as I understood your ruling when I was attempting to answer the hon. member for Broadview, it was your view that a discussion of the procedure to set up a committee, and that sort of thing, was not in order on this item, or that it had been sufficiently discussed, and there should be no more discussion of it. I submit that if that ruling was applied to myself it should be applied to other members of the committee.

The Chairman: Order. It is quite true I admitted my own fault in allowing the discussion to go on at all; but I did rise when I felt it had been sufficiently discussed, and interrupted the hon. member for Halifax, indicating quite clearly, I thought, that it was purely procedural and was not relevant to this item. I therefore must ask other hon. members to refrain from discussing the same subject.

Mr. Dinsdale: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The hon. member for Halifax was a little fast on the draw, because I was not going to refer to the preceding discussion. I was merely saying there was no difference of opinion among this group as to the proper approach to the subject of research in this country.

I have just one small contribution to make, nevertheless I feel it is important. In the discussion on this item up to the present the immediate emphasis has been entirely on the aspects of physical research, pure research in the realm of the physical sciences. That of course arises from the very nature of the national research council. It emerged during world war I to deal with problems arising from that conflict at that time. Emphasis since has been largely in the direction of the physical sciences. As I look at the report of the council which is the chief source of information, I find reference to topics that belong in the realm of the physical sciences, such as biology, chemistry, physics and so forth.

I suggest that an important aspect of research is being neglected in the activities of the national research council. I refer to the very rich and fruitful field of the social