

Supply—Industry

schools. We could obtain doctors there. Not only can we do that, but we should build up the research in our own schools and employ those 200 doctors who are crossing the border. In this way we would be able to close the gap. So, I appeal to the minister to do everything in his power to see that this is done.

In conclusion, I should like to say that in Canada we have a great medical profession. We have good medical schools, many of which rank with the best. I can remember when a great many of our medical schools were better than those in the United States, but the situation has changed. Today four of our medical schools have had difficulty in meeting the academic requirements. I am one who has great faith in the young people of our country, and I say that with the great country we have, the great resources we have and above all with the human resources we have, for goodness sake let us keep Canada at the top. If we do not do this, we will downgrade the profession and when it is downgraded it will be too late to lift it up.

I hope the minister will reply to some of the points I have raised. I am sure he may have to consult with the Minister of National Health and Welfare and perhaps look up some information. I would be very happy, however, if he would report back on this, if not today, at least in a few days.

Mr. Barnett: Mr. Chairman, I am sure that every member who has been listening to the eloquent words of the hon. member for Simcoe East has been moved by the plea he has put before the house. I doubt that there are many members of this house who could find very much with which to disagree in what the hon. member has just said. His remarks moved me to take a look at this item of \$12,350,000 which is shown under scholarships and grants in aid of medical research. I did a bit of quick arithmetic and my calculation is that this amounts to roughly six-tenths of one cent per person per year in Canada. I hope his remarks may have caused other members to take a new look at the limitations which we are imposing at the federal level on the development and progress in this particular field to which the hon. member for Simcoe East referred.

I think the minister will find, in effect, that the hon. member for Kootenay West, the hon. member for Simcoe East and myself are going to be indulging in what I might describe as variations of a theme here today. Before I move into the particular area which I wish to discuss, I should like to say that I did enjoy

listening to the minister's brief introduction of these estimates. I agree with him that in view of the consideration given to the estimates in the committee, perhaps it should not be necessary for us today to launch into the broad spectrum of what may be involved in the work of the National Research Council and the Medical Research Centre.

● (5:50 p.m.)

However, I must say I feel the topics that have been raised by the hon. members for Kootenay West and Simcoe East are topics which are very timely as far as this house is concerned. Just prior to going to Montreal to attend the conference on "Pollution and our Environment", I had the privilege of being one of a small group of members who paid an all too brief visit to the National Research Council on the Montreal road. At that time I was given a glimpse of some aspects of the work of that institution which I had not had the opportunity of observing before. That visit was a very useful and valuable prelude to my visit to the conference in Montreal as one of the parliamentary observers in attendance.

The hon. member for Kootenay West dealt with the question of pollution of our water, air and soil. I intend to make my remarks on research in the light of what he had to say about the background leading up to the holding of this important conference.

I am sure the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, who is the Canadian federal member of that council of resource ministers, will have no objection to some of us, during this discussion of research in Canada, attempting to focus attention on what happened at the conference. I am sure he will not object to our attempt to enlist the Minister of Industry as an active supporter of some of the proposals which were made. I certainly hope that other proposals will be forthcoming from the federal member of the council of resource ministers in the near future.

The hon. member for Kootenay West said earlier that the conference sought to arrive at conclusions in respect of certain guide lines which are not, as yet, legislative policy at either the federal or provincial levels of government. Let me spend some time discussing what I consider to be the relevant guidelines in relation to the particular estimates we have before us in the field of air, water and soil pollution control.

It is my intention to refer to a document which I have in my hand entitled "Recommendations from the Guideline Groups". I do