Supply

We have not been placing enough emphasis on the matter of vocational training in this country, and we have been importing unskilled labour when there is an oversupply in the country at the present time.

The immigration figures for skilled and unskilled workers that I have just quoted show very clearly that we are aggravating a situation that is already bad. Our selection of immigrants should be along the lines of the requirements of the country, but in the last year we have imported unskilled labour when we should have been bringing in skilled people to fill vacancies that already exist at the employment offices. We have been carrying on practically no vocational training in the country to train our own people who are in the queues of the unemployed at the present time.

That is why I said it was so important that the Department of Labour and the Department of Citizenship and Immigration should work closely together. I know that the Department of Labour has the information and the trained personnel who can put their fingers on any given situation across the country in the field of employment, with respect to where immigration is needed, what kind of immigrants, etc. I know the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration understands this just as well as I do, but he is a busy man with a big department to handle. He is pestered a lot by members of parliament and others, and it does no harm to check his memory on these things.

The Minister of Labour is here at the present time. I do not want him or the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration to think I am lecturing them, but it does not do any harm once in a while for someone in the house to urge greater co-operation between the departments on matters that are so closely related as employment and immigration.

I am reminded by the hon, member for Eglinton that it is ten o'clock.

Mr. Fleming: Two minutes to ten.

Mr. Gillis: I have a few more things I should like to say. If the committee wants to sit for another ten minutes I can finish.

An hon. Member: Carry on.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Gillis: The will of the majority is that I sit down.

The Deputy Chairman: Has the hon. member leave to proceed?

Some hon. Members: No.

Item stands.

Progress reported.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Fournier (Hull): Tomorrow we shall go into supply and continue consideration of the estimates of the Department of Citizenship and Immigration, the Prime Minister's office, health and welfare, and mines and technical surveys.

At ten o'clock the house adjourned, without question put, pursuant to standing order.

The following items were passed in committee of supply:

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

General administration-

426. Departmental administration, \$588,333.

427. Commodities services (including the former wheat and grain division) including contributions as detailed in the estimates, \$617,872.

428. Trade commissioner service, \$2,522,696.

429. Information branch, \$177,218.

430. Economics branch, \$156,884.

431. International trade relations branch, including contribution of \$6,300 to the international customs tariffs bureau, \$140,370.

Exhibitions-

432. Exhibitions generally, \$286,503.

433. Canadian international trade fair, including authority to refund, from revenue, deposits received for contracts for space, \$330,000.

Standards branch-

434. Administration, including the standards laboratory and administration of the Precious Metals Marking Act, \$180,910.

435. Electricity and gas inspection services, \$598,391.

436. Weights and measures inspection services, \$726,231.

Dominion bureau of statistics-

437. Administration, \$180,974.

438. Statistics, including a contribution of \$3,000 to the inter-American statistical institute, \$4,473,525.

439. Census, including 1951 decennial census, \$879,414.

Canada Grain Act-

Board of grain commissioners-

440. Administration, \$208,577.

441. Operation and maintenance expenses, \$3,-292,600.

Canadian government elevators-

442. Operation and maintenance expenses, \$1,-345,467.

Special-

443. International economic and technical cooperation branch, including the administration of the Colombo plan and of certain United Nations co-operation plans, \$97,758.