

Supply—Trade and Commerce

Mr. Howe: That is right.

Item agreed to.

Special—

462. International economic and technical co-operation division, including the administration of the Colombo plan and of certain United Nations co-operation plans, \$88,192.

Mr. Fleming: Under item 462 we have apparently a new division within this department, the international economic and technical co-operation division, with a director at a salary of \$12,000, four administrative officers, a librarian, control process officers, three stenographers and a clerk. I wonder if we could have from the minister a statement as to the reason for establishing this new division? I hope we do not need to assure the minister or the house that there has been unanimous support for the provisions made by the Colombo plan, but does it inevitably follow that because Canada is providing needed technical assistance to the commonwealth countries in southeast Asia that there must be this new division set up within the department?

Mr. Howe: Mr. Chairman, the amounts are quite substantial. We have made two grants of \$25 million each, and that money must be spent to the satisfaction of the taxpayers of Canada as well as the recipient countries. The personnel of the division are mostly concerned with that plan. Nik Cavell is a man with a great deal of experience in work in the area in which the Colombo plan is being executed. I would be glad to read the extract from the annual report of the department bearing on this branch, if the hon. member so desires.

Mr. Fleming: Is it very lengthy?

Mr. Howe: It is a full page, yes.

Mr. Fleming: None of us has a copy of the report which was just tabled this afternoon.

Mr. Howe: I understand that, and I am sorry, but there again it has been delayed in the printing office. It will be available within a day or two. I do not know that I can read a short extract that would be particularly illuminating. It is necessary, however, to examine with the countries concerned the type of assistance that will be satisfactory to them. We believe that is something that will appeal to the Canadian people. For example, in Pakistan I believe we are building a cement plant, and that is something Canada can do very well. In India there are hydroelectric projects, certain irrigation projects, and over all there is the technical assistance program which calls for administration. We send administrators from Canada out to the field to do work in the field, and

we also take people from the area to Canada to give them instructions in Canadian methods. I think that Canada could hardly hope to do a job under the Colombo plan without considerable experienced staff who could handle the problems that are encountered.

Mr. Catherwood: Should not this item actually come under the Department of External Affairs?

Mr. Howe: I agree with the hon. member, but unfortunately the Department of External Affairs has insisted that it should come under the Department of Trade and Commerce, on the theory that we had the personnel who were more familiar with the problems.

Item agreed to.

National research council and atomic energy control board—

295. Salaries and other expenses, \$12,198,684.

Mr. Green: This item opens up a new branch, and I would suggest that it be adjourned.

The Chairman: Shall I report progress and ask leave to sit again?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Item stands.

Progress reported.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Fournier (Hull) moved the adjournment of the house.

He said: Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we shall take up Bill No. 193, an act respecting the New Westminster harbour commissioners; Bill No. 192, an act respecting a line of railway from Terrace to Kitimat, B.C. Then, we shall go into supply to consider the estimates of transport.

Motion agreed to and the house adjourned at 10.55 p.m.

[The following items were passed in committee of supply]:

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

General administration—

441. Departmental administration, \$617,795.

442. Commodities services, including assistance in the development of markets and new industry, the procurement of supplies, and contributions as detailed in the estimates, \$620,352.

443. Trade commissioner service, including payment of compensation to trade commissioners for damage to and loss of furniture and effects, under terms and conditions approved by the governor in council, \$2,329,134.