

Mr. MITCHELL: I can only say this, that when I hear from the people I referred to in that letter I shall be glad to give the hon. member an answer, and not before.

Mr. STEPHENSON: There is just one question I wish to ask the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre. He is asking what is the attitude of the minister with regard to the company paying overtime pay in this case. What is his attitude towards the union members striking against the government?

Mr. KNOWLES: The thing cuts both ways.

Mr. STEPHENSON: That is a fair question.

Mr. MASSEY: May I refer the minister to *Hansard* of August 26, page 5421. I have sent for a copy, but it has not arrived yet. In the course of the discussion of the estimates of the Minister of National Defence for Air I addressed a question to the minister for air in regard to the attachment of Royal Canadian Air Force officers to the national employment service in Toronto, and suggested to him and strongly urged upon him that that attachment continue. He replied as follows:

That is not a matter which comes within the air force; that is under the Department of Labour, and anything like that would have to be arranged by that department.

Has the minister any knowledge which he can give the committee immediately of what the programme is in that regard?

Mr. MITCHELL: I think these officers are seconded—that is the term they use—from the air force to the Department of Labour in the city of Toronto, and we are at present in correspondence with the department with respect to the future activities of the men in question.

Item agreed to.

743. *Labour Gazette* and other publications authorized by Labour Department Act—further amount required, \$4,526.

Mr. PROBE: I have not taken any time of the Minister of Labour or of this committee during any part of the discussion of the estimates on labour, but I wish at this time to associate myself completely with the other members of the C.C.F. group in the opinions which they have expressed, and I believe that fair-minded members of the House of Commons will feel that they are doing their proper duty with respect to labour.

With respect to this particular estimate for the *Labour Gazette*, I think the minister has in the *Labour Gazette* an outstanding publica-

[Mr. Knowles.]

tion. I always appreciate getting it, and I know that labour groups throughout the country look forward to it. There is a great deal of information, statistical, national and international, with respect to labour matters. I should like however to voice a suggestion which I am sure the minister will take in what he is pleased to call "a kindly way", and that is that the *Gazette* comes out just a little bit late. I know his difficulties in the matter of compiling the statistics which go into the *Gazette*, and assembling them, and so on. But it seems to me that statistics which require a longer time to prepare and verify could be included in a later edition of the *Labour Gazette*, so that information which can be compiled locally can be kept up to date instead of being a couple of months behind. I do not wish to take any more of the time of the committee, but I do feel that this department is giving a service to the country generally in that publication; I should like to see the service made even better, and for that reason I am offering this suggestion.

Mr. MITCHELL: I want to thank my hon. friend for the very kind things he has said about the *Labour Gazette*. We are having difficulties with paper and printing, but I shall be glad to look into the aspect of the matter he has just mentioned.

Item agreed to.

#### DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

41. Departmental administration, \$767,480.

Mr. REID: Nothing comes before members of parliament that is more important than the estimates. They provide the one opportunity the ordinary member has to discuss these administrative matters. I suggest to the minister that at the beginning of the next session the estimates be brought down within a week after the opening of parliament, so as to give members a chance to deal with them. Throughout the whole session we should be discussing these estimates, not, as happens year after year, on the eve of our going away. I make that suggestion seriously, in order that we may have a proper opportunity for discussion.

Will the minister give consideration to the remarks which we made on the fisheries estimates, affecting the United States and Canada and the continental shelf?—because these matters are very important.

Mr. ST. LAURENT: I assure the hon. gentleman that the matter will receive consideration, and I think the proper form for it is in the food and agriculture organization