

*Supply—National Library*

read the recommendations which are to the effect that librarians, of all people, are people who should have professional qualifications. Paragraph 4 of the recommendations on page 328 reads:

As the library of parliament is at the moment the only library comparable in any way to national libraries in other countries it seems to us of particular importance that it should be enabled to maintain appropriate standards of service in all departments.

The report was speaking about the parliamentary library and they put that little clause in to show that, in their opinion, a national library when established would be subject to the same recommendations.

I was interested in this to back up what I said a moment ago; that is to say, the library will also offer immediate and valuable services to all Canadian libraries, as well as a bibliographical guide. I put this in the form of a question, and I could have waited to put it later but the minister may take note of it as I go along. Amongst the recommendations of the commission is No. 9, found on page 330, where it says:

The various steps already taken in appointing a national library advisory committee, in setting up a bibliographic centre and in compiling a union catalogue and bibliographical guides, are, we understand, regarded as measures preparatory to the creation of a national library.

My question to the minister would be this. In view of the recommendation, what progress has been made in that particular direction and along those particular lines? I could talk at some length on this particular subject, and perhaps at this stage of the debate it would be better not to do so. Perhaps, as the minister suggested, my contribution would be of no particular importance. I do want to emphasize that speaking for myself, and I think I can speak for my party and certainly for my leader, we in this house believe that there are more sources of life than merely bread. We do believe in things which are cultural rather than purely physical and material, important as those things may be. In my opinion, this creation of a national library is one of the finest steps along that direction that this government has devised and put into effect over a great number of years.

**Mr. Nicholson:** I have before me, Mr. Chairman, the architect's model of the proposed national library and archives building. I am sure that when it is complete it will be one of the buildings that will be a real source of pride to all Canadians. However, I cannot believe that we are about to spend so much money on a project of this sort, without providing any air conditioning—

[Mr. Knight.]

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Well, Mr. Chairman, later today if the program set out last night is carried out, my hon. friend the Minister of Public Works will have his estimates before the committee. There is nothing I can do about air conditioning, as long as I am Minister of Citizenship and Immigration.

**Mr. Nicholson:** Again, we have the buck being passed, but I suggest that the minister—

**Mr. Pickersgill:** I suggest, sir, it is rather an affront to the committee to suggest, when a minister asks to have the rules adhered to, that it is buck passing.

**Mr. Nicholson:** I merely wish to say that the minister responsible for this building has a responsibility to the Canadian people and to the people who will work there, to recommend to the Minister of Public Works that air conditioning—

**Mr. Winters:** The Minister of Citizenship and Immigration is not responsible for this building. The Minister of Public Works is.

**Mr. Nicholson:** The minister is to be responsible for the national library, and the minister should make a recommendation to the Minister of Public Works that air conditioning be provided. I think from the point of view of the valuable books to be placed in the building and the Canadian citizens who for the rest of their lives will be working in the building, it is most unsatisfactory that a proposal has come forward to construct a building of that kind without making provision for air conditioning.

That is all I wish to say now about the question, but I suggest the minister who is responsible for the library should use all his influence with the cabinet to see that this stupid policy is not adhered to. I suggest that in terms of dollars and cents it is false economy to build that sort of building in this climate, without making provision for air conditioning.

**Mr. Hamilton (Notre Dame de Grace):** Mr. Chairman, I have a question to ask about the national library. The library report goes at length into the very good job that is being done in the formation of a national union catalogue in microfilm, covering millions of volumes. I do not see in the estimates however any amount which could be connected with the expense of doing that particular job, and I am wondering where it is to be found.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** I direct the hon. member's attention to the details at page 453, where there is a reference to the publication of lists of current Canadian publications and bibliographies, with an amount of \$12,500 set