

*Supply—Citizenship and Immigration*

police. In my opinion this is not the way police matters should be administered in so far as the reserve is concerned. If the Royal Canadian Mounted Police are going to maintain a detachment of three or four men on the reserve to look after police matters, then they should do so and not pass on the calls to the provincial police. The Brantford city detachment of the provincial police is 12 to 14 miles from the centre of the reserve, and as a result the people on the reserve are not receiving adequate police protection when the provincial police are called. I wish the minister would look into the matter of the agreement between her department and the Department of Justice in order to ascertain just what the duties of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police are on this reserve. If they are supposed to be maintaining law and order then they should be ordered to do it instead of passing the job on to the provincial police.

There is one other important point I should like to bring to the attention of the minister. Newspaper reports would lead me to believe there has been some progress made in connection with this subject of fire protection on the reserve. Since I mentioned the matter last June there have been several fires on the reserve, in one of which four children were burned to death, and in another one person was burned to death. The Brantford city fire department is very efficient, as is the township fire department. These departments are fire prevention conscious and they have asked me to draw to the attention of the government the need for some firefighting equipment located on the reserve. I know that the chief of either of these fire departments would be glad to give advice on the establishment of such a department. I do not want to belabour this point because I do know some investigation has already been conducted into the matter. However, I do believe that for the sake of the safety of the people who live on the reserve we should go ahead quickly and establish fire fighting equipment on the reserve.

That is all I have to say at this time, Mr. Chairman.

**Mr. Nielsen:** Mr. Chairman, I, like the hon. member who has preceded me, should like to extend my grateful thanks to the minister, to the director of the branch and to his staff for the very generous measure of assistance and co-operation they have given me during the past year. I should like to commend the branch particularly on the enlightened view that they have taken of the various suggestions which I have made from time to time and which have been of particular help to the Indian people in the

[Mr. Wratten.]

Yukon. In this connection I should like to mention the suggestion which I advanced last year concerning the construction of a road from Watson Lake to Ross river which resulted in employment for well over 100 Indian people in the Yukon for some four months. The same work continues this year.

I should like also to commend to the minister her staff at Whitehorse. There has been a substantial and noticeable improvement in the administrative quality of the personnel in the Whitehorse office. The superintendent there is a very dedicated person and I think the minister would go a long way before she would find someone who would be of such a high standard. There is, however, still a large gap in the staff at Whitehorse, a gap that will exist until a placement officer is found for the Yukon.

The minister will recall that I first brought this matter to her attention on March 12, 1959. Since that time I understand one competition has been held by the civil service but some difficulties were encountered and the position was not filled. I noted with interest in the minister's opening statement that a placement officer had been found for Prince George. I understood the original intention was that the placement officer for the Yukon agency was also going to cover this area as well. Perhaps she could clarify this matter if I am wrong. Perhaps she could also give me some idea as to when the placement officer will be found to occupy that position in the Yukon because there is a substantial need for one there.

In keeping with the compliments which I paid to the minister for the increased tempo of the work of the branch in the Yukon, I note with much satisfaction the figures for expenditures which have been made in the Yukon over the past three years. I understand that in 1956-57 the total expenditures in the Yukon were \$224,250; in 1957-58, \$350,984; and in 1958-59, up to March 31, 1959, \$543,231.22. I should like the minister to bring me up to date on that last figure, to give me the figure for the complete fiscal year of 1958-59 and also the current figure for 1959-60 as far as it is possible to do so. From the figures I have been able to obtain it would appear that the expenditure from 1956 to date has more than doubled on an annual basis, something which is exceedingly gratifying to me.

In her opening remarks the minister also mentioned the grubstaking of trappers. I had not been fully aware of the fact that this was the policy of the branch and I should like her to tell me to what extent this policy of grubstaking trappers has been applied with regard to Yukon Indian people. While she is answering that question perhaps she might