

*Supply—Mines and Technical Surveys*

they are so fundamental and important that I think we need further statements and explanations than we have had. Then I would like to see the case prepared and presented to the house. It will take some time, but it will give us an excellent picture of how this co-ordination is worked out and the planning stages of the future of how geological surveys and mapping surveys are going to move ahead and cover the entire problem, and how it relates to the number of employees that the department is planning to add. We would like to know about the workload upon those employees. I think this is one of the most important questions we face in all kinds of economic development in the country. If Dr. Rickaby's remarks, or Dr. Brown's remarks, have any substance at all, then there is an implicit criticism of the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys.

I would like to tell the minister that later on I hope to ask him some questions in connection with what his mines section is doing with regard to safety work in connection with uranium slugs and that sort of material, and just what co-relation is being carried out with the Department of National Health and Welfare and with other groups making studies throughout this world on the whole question of the effect of radiation and how the department in its meteorological studies is working on this particular aspect.

I also intend to ask him some questions in relation to scholarships and grants. I appreciate receiving from the deputy minister recently a report on the national advisory committee on research into geological sciences, but this report does not give any indication of the number of applications for research grants. The committee on scholarships and grants concludes, after a review of all the inadequacies of support for both undergraduate and graduate work and for post graduates, with this paragraph:

The above sums on top of what will be the overburdened budgets of the universities raise a serious problem. Where is all this money to come from? If it is not found it will dangerously curtail the much-needed increase in key personnel required by the mineral industry.

At the back of this report we have some interesting statistics on the number of students and the number of degrees granted in various industries in relation to the subject fields of geology, mineralogy and metallurgy. The figures are very disappointing when you consider that only 124 degrees were granted in 1956. This raises the whole issue of the contribution the federal government, through this department, plans to make in this specific field, and whether it is planned to do anything, as the committee suggests, along the line of considering getting into the field

of undergraduate work, and how this department in relation to this particular problem is working with the other departments to assist the universities in some way.

Those of us who have anything to do with university affairs feel that the students in the sciences and in the engineering subjects have much better opportunities for scholarships on the graduate level than in the arts subjects, even though we may feel that it may only indicate that arts are not moving and the sciences and engineering fields are rolling. When we come to that particular phase I have a number of questions I want to raise on the statistics, the number of people applying for grants, the number of students affected and the plans of the department in this regard.

One of the other points we raised last year is the question in relation to the Emergency Gold Mining Assistance Act and the inspections that are carried out. Last year the minister asked us to provide him with specific cases so that he could work on them. I have been trying to get specific cases, but I have to repeat I am in the state I was last year. There is nothing more than the ordinary gossip you get from the miners going around the mining communities, but with all due respect to the miners they are not experts in terms of the ore values existing in these various mines. Therefore I should like a statement from the minister this afternoon as to how often his inspectors visit these mines and just what procedures they follow in order to determine that the mines are not low-grading their properties in order to take advantage of this assistance. If some publicity could be given to the techniques that are used and if it could be generally recognized that they are adequate and that there is no low-grading going on I think you would create a much better relationship between the managements of the mines and some of the people in the areas where the mines are being operated.

Another point I should like to touch on which has not been referred to is the whole question of the publications of the department in relation to popular usage. As the minister and his deputy minister no doubt are aware, prospecting is becoming more and more a big company proposition. It is very interesting to look at the summary contained in a reference paper put out by the Department of External Affairs entitled "Iron Ore in Canada, 1957". This was prepared by W. Keith Buck of the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys and the indication throughout is that almost all discovery and exploration work is being carried on by very large organizations.

[Mr. Fisher.]