

Supply—Northern Affairs

I should like to ask the minister if it is intended that other aircraft be added to this display. I understand that the Silver Dart is on display at the museum, and I was wondering whether other aircraft could perhaps be included in that display. I refer particularly to the Curtis JN-4 which was built in Canada 45 years ago, and was probably the first training plane used on this continent to any extent. I am sure that if a search was made in barns around the areas of Deseronto, Beamsville, and Toronto, some of these old aircraft would be found. I understand there is great interest in the United States regarding these JN-4's and that several of them have been shipped down there, rebuilt and are still being flown. I should like to see one of these aircraft placed in that museum.

Many of our pioneer flyers such as the bush pilots who flew in the open cockpit airplanes were trained in these aircraft. If one queries the old time flyers it will be found that a great amount of flying was done in these old planes and that they were considered to be wonderful aircraft.

Not long ago one of the old time bush pilots was asked to describe the difference between crashing in one of the old planes and crashing in one of the new type airplanes. He said there was very little difference. He suggested when an old type aircraft crashed it came down bzzzzt and, bang, it hit the ground. He said that crashing in a new type of aircraft was much the same, it came down bzzzzt, bang, and hit the ground, but a few seconds later there could be heard the tinkle, tinkle of the glass falling out of the windows. That apparently was the only difference.

I am sure the minister, having been a pilot, will appreciate the tremendous amount of work that has been done in the development and design of aircraft, and I suggest to him this progress could be reflected by the display of one of the older types of aircraft at the museum.

I had not intended to take up much of the committee's time but I did want to bring these suggestions to the minister's attention, and I hope in the near future he will be able to inform me that one of the old JN-4 Curtis Canucks is on display at the museum.

Mr. Peters: Mr. Chairman, in view of the remarks made by the hon. gentleman who has just taken his seat, I should like to inform the present minister that I have been very interested in this particular subject for some years, and suggest that a comparison could be made between aircraft at the beginning of aviation history in Canada, and aircraft as they exist today by referring to our memory of the expenditure regarding the

CF-105 Arrow program. I should like to ask the minister if one of the Arrow aircraft could be included in the display at the museum so as to represent what has taken place in the field of aviation in Canada. If this could be done, it would be of interest to compare the Arrow with the Silver Dart which is there on display now. I made this same suggestion to the former minister who assured me that he would give consideration to it, and I am now wondering whether it has been done, or if one of those aircraft is available for this purpose.

Mr. Dinsdale: Mr. Chairman, I should like to reply briefly to the remarks made by the two hon. members who have just spoken. I am aware of the subject referred to by the hon. member for Nanaimo, but must inform him that it is very difficult to acquire a Curtis JN-4. It has become a very rare species. I can assure the hon. member that the aviation museum, which occupies almost the entire upper floor of the air terminal, is just a beginning of a much larger science museum, and that an earnest attempt is being made to acquire suitable types of aircraft. The Royal Canadian Air Force is collaborating in this regard.

In reference to the query regarding the CF-105, I should like to inform the hon. member that a replica of the CF-105 will be available for the museum when space is provided.

Item agreed to.

287. Grant to Jack Miner migratory bird foundation, \$5,000.

Mr. Thrasher: Mr. Chairman, I do not wish to delay the passage of this item, but I should like to extend my congratulations to the minister for his work in this particular department, and in so doing I should like to adopt the remarks made earlier this afternoon by the hon. member for Charlotte.

This particular item is of extreme importance in my area. The great work of the Jack Miner foundation is known not only throughout Canada but the whole world. I hope the minister will, in the not too distant future, have the opportunity of visiting this very important bird sanctuary, and will at the same time take the opportunity of visiting Fort Malden museum at Amherstburg, Ontario, as well as the national park at Point Pelee, both of which are located in my riding.

I should also like to take this opportunity, Mr. Chairman, to thank the officials of the department through the minister and to tell them how pleased I am with the excellent work done in the area of the county and the excellent co-operation given to the people in that area.