

Mr. HERRIDGE: What are their numbers now, approximately?

Mr. GREEN: Mr. Smith was on that committee at the United Nations.

Mr. SMITH (*Calgary South*): The number is slightly over one million, and Doctor Davidson's report to us said the countries were well able to absorb any of the trainees coming out of these schools, and would be able to do so for some time.

Mr. CRESTOHL: Have there been any overt acts on the part of Canada and Canadian diplomats to implement the suggestion that was made by Mr. Martin a few moments ago?

Mr. GREEN: I do not think "overt acts" is an apt description of what Canada could do.

Mr. CRESTOHL: Have any steps been taken, apart from academic discussions?

Mr. GREEN: In various negotiations and contacts we are doing the best we can to work out some agreement.

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): Without going into details, the minister is now saying that, consistent with the realization of that objective, we are taking whatever steps the Canadian government believes can safely be taken to bring about an understanding of that position?

Mr. GREEN: That is correct and, by the way, Mr. Smith has done an excellent job on the special political committee during the last session of the general assembly. That is the committee which deals with such matters.

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): Mr. Arnold Smith?

Mr. GREEN: No.

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): I know it is the Mr. Smith who is sitting beside me.

Mr. GREEN: Mr. Arnold Smith has done excellent work as our ambassador in Cairo.

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): Talking about Mr. Arnold Smith, it seems to me that what Mr. Smith did towards the end of his period in Cairo is a practice that others could well follow. He went to Iraq, for instance, and I have often wondered why we do not call to the attention of our missions in particular areas the opportunities of getting to know more about adjoining countries, about an area as a whole.

Mr. GREEN: Mr. Smith was given a watching brief in Iraq, but the other ambassadors travel as well in areas surrounding the countries to which they are sent.

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): In Asia, for instance, do our ambassadors go to any countries other than the countries to which they are accredited?

Mr. GREEN: Mr. Menzies goes from Malaya to Burma. Mr. Menzies, who is our high commissioner in Malaya, also goes to Cambodia and Vietnam.

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): As high commissioner?

Mr. GREEN: No. We should also like to have representation of some kind in Thailand.

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): Where

Mr. GREEN: Thailand. But, as you well know, the main work of these ambassadors is in the countries to which they are accredited.

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): I heard what Mr. Robertson said but I think that, a man in Cairo could serve his immediate post better if he has a wide experience of some of the other countries, particularly Iraq and Jordan.

Mr. GREEN: That is correct.

Mr. HERRIDGE: On what basis are these appointments made? Is it a committee, or who decides where the various representatives will go?