

Supply—Citizenship and Immigration

Mr. Chairman, that it is a continuation of the policy we announced last year at this time of purchasing from this particular collection representative paintings of various schools in order to have them in the gallery so that eventually—I do not say how long this may take—we shall have a sufficiently wide selection that one as a student of art could obtain an appreciation of art as it was practised in Europe at various times during three or four hundred years.

Mr. Nesbitt: Would the minister agree to give us the names of the artists and the titles of the paintings concerned?

Mr. Harris: Yes. Well, the paintings are: by Quentin Metsys, The Crucifixion; by Mr. Beham, Portrait of a Prince of Bavaria; by Guardi, Santa Maria Della Salute and the Grand Canal Venice; by Nicolas Maes, Lacemaker; by Memling, Madonna and Child with Saint Anthony of Padua.

Mr. Nesbitt: Can the minister tell us how much was paid for each of these paintings?

Mr. Harris: It was a group purchase of the lot at the figure mentioned in the supplementary.

Mr. Nesbitt: Were these paintings purchased as representative of schools of painting that are not represented in the national gallery at the present time?

Mr. Harris: In two cases they are of schools that are not represented at all; and in the others, they are additions to the collection we now have.

Mr. Nesbitt: Perhaps the minister can tell us which two paintings are indicative of schools that are not represented at the present time? Are they Italian or Flemish schools of art?

Mr. Harris: I am told that the Flemish school has not been represented until the present time, and we are getting the Nicolas Maes "Lacemaker". I am also told that the Guardi one is the first of the so-called impressionist group in Italy.

Mr. McCullough (Moose Mountain): I was on my feet before you called the present item, Mr. Chairman. I should like your indulgence and the indulgence of hon. members to refer back to item 554. I am sure we are quite happy to have the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration with us. I know that none of us wants to prolong his statements on some of these matters. However, I should like to bring to the attention of the minister's department—

The Chairman: Has the hon. member consent to revert to item 554?

Mr. Abbott: As long as it does not become a habit with him, Mr. Chairman.

Indian affairs branch—
Education—

554. Administration, operation and maintenance—further amount required, \$120,000.

Mr. McCullough (Moose Mountain): I shall be fairly brief. I want to bring to the minister's attention the fact that in regard to the Indian reserve in my own constituency at White Bear reserve, we have a rather serious situation with respect to the Indian population. I have already taken the matter up with officials of his department, and I suggest that something be done about giving hospital and medical care to these people. The population there is rising to well over 500 and there definitely is not proper hospital or medical care for these people. I would suggest to him that he give the matter consideration, and when we come to the main estimates I hope that he will be able to give me a satisfactory answer that something definitely is to be done for the Indians on that reserve.

Mr. Harris: I shall be glad to draw the hon. member's request to the attention of the Minister of National Health and Welfare, who is in charge of that particular branch of Indian administration.

National Gallery of Canada—

555. Payment to the national gallery purchase account for the purpose of acquiring works of art, in conformity with section 8 of the National Gallery Act—further amount required, \$360,000.

Mr. Nesbitt: Mr. Chairman, on this item there is one further question I would like to ask the minister. As I understood the minister's remarks a few moments ago some of these paintings purchased under this item of \$360,000 were representative of the Flemish school which had not previously been represented in the national gallery. A short time ago I made some inquiries at the national gallery and I have a list of the paintings purchased prior to the purchase of paintings of the Flemish school. Painting No. 3695 is "Judith with the Head of Holofernes" and there is another painting by Frans Floris, another by Jan Davids de Heem, and yet another. Certainly there are more than 20 other paintings belonging to the Flemish school and I wonder whether the minister was in error in remarks relating to them.

Mr. Harris: No, Mr. Chairman. The hon. member will understand that the Flemish school in the artistic sense extended over a lengthy period of time. There were quite a number of variations during that period and this particular painting relates to a period which had not been represented.