I think that the overseas staff suffers from a major discrimination when compared with the overseas staff of the Department of External Affairs and the Department of Trade and Commerce. I appeal to the minister to use his moral authority within the government to secure for his staff overseas at least the status and prestige enjoyed by the overseas staff of the Department of Trade and Commerce.

I should say that the overseas staff is a dedicated staff. Since I ceased to be minister, I have visited offices in many countries as an ordinary citizen and I have been universally impressed by the calibre of our officers. I hope it will not be invidious to say, that when I visited the office in Hong Kong in the month of September, due to the very great courtesy of the Minister of Labour, the hon. member for Vancouver Centre, I was tremendously impressed by the skill and intelligence under the most difficult circumstances of the staff. I was especially impressed by the fine, understanding leadership of their chief, Mr. Robert Wales. I should say that he and his staff are a credit to Canada.

The minister, sir, will have a more difficult time when his estimates are next before the house unless, in the meantime, he enunciates in a broad, decisive way, a genuine immigration policy for this country. Every day I am impressed by the role which recent immigrants have played in the enrichment of Canadian life and in the advancement of our culture. Each day I have been reminded of how new arrivals, filled with enthusiasm, energy, and the will to succeed have enriched our national life, expanded our Canadian traditions in fields such as science, education, the arts, yes—even in politics. Canada needs more, Mr. Chairman, of these people.

The Chairman: Shall the item carry?

An hon. Member: Six o'clock.

Mr. Starr: Mr. Chairman, before you proceed, may I ask the government house leader if he can tell us in what order he expects to bring up the balance of the estimates of the various departments?

Mr. McIlraith: Mr. Chairman, I have just had it drawn to my attention by the table that the item for the R.C.M.P. was omitted when the committee was considering estimates for the Department of Justice. Perhaps it might be as well, since that item was inadvertently omitted, to put it through now.

COMMONS DEBATES

Proceedings on Adjournment Motion

We want to proceed in this order, apart from that: finish the Department of Citizenship and Immigration. Then deal with the Departments of Health and Welfare, Public Works, the Secretary of State, and Fisheries.

I should like to now call the item that was inadvertently omitted.

Mr. Herridge: No. One or two questions arise under that item.

The Deputy Chairman: In view of the fact that the house is proceeding to consider private members' business, pursuant to section 3 of standing order 15 it is my duty to leave the chair.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED UNDER ADJOURNMENT MOTION

Mr. Speaker: It is my duty pursuant to provisional standing order 39A, to inform the house that the following questions will be discussed on the adjournment motion tonight: the hon. member for Timmins (Mr. Martin), finance—inquiry as to assistance to gold mining industry; the hon. member for Verdun (Mr. Mackasey), Canadian centennial—suggested restoration of grave of D'Arcy McGee.

[Translation]

The hon. member for Nicolet-Yamaska: Agriculture—dairy policy;

[English]

It being six o'clock the house will now proceed to the consideration of private members' business as listed on today's order paper, namely notices of motion.

• (6:10 p.m.)

[Translation]

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS

APPOINTMENT OF JOINT COMMITTEE OF SENATE AND HOUSE OF COMMONS

Mr. Maurice Allard (Sherbrooke) moved:

That a Joint Committee of the Senate and House of Commons be appointed as soon as possible to be called the "Joint Committee on Federal-Provincial Relations" to consider all reports dealing with federal-provincial matters in which this Parliament is interested, as for instance the reports of the Bilingualism and Biculturalism Commission, the Carter Commission and other similar commissions, so that the said Committee may make a study of such reports and of the evidence submitted thereto, and that the said Committee have power to call for persons, papers and records and examine witnesses, to report its recommendations from time to time, and to engage the services of counsel, accountants and such other clerical and technical personnel as may be deemed necessary.