

*Supply—Citizenship and Immigration*

permanent railway workers but common day labourers and in every case before we bring these people in we check with the national employment service to find out if they can fulfil the requirements.

**Mr. Dinsdale:** I am encouraged by the minister's expansive mood to ask one further question on the point raised by the hon. member for Notre Dame de Grace. I have been interested in cases in which the grounds given for exclusion were marked confidential. Earlier in the discussion today the minister said that the circumstances of war are not weighted so heavily in considering applications for immigration, and by private inquiry I discovered that the grounds for exclusion are related to what was regarded as subversive activity during the war. May I take the liberty of placing this case before the minister?

**Mr. Harris:** By all means.

Item agreed to.

62. To provide, subject to the approval of treasury board, for trans-oceanic and inland transportation assistance for immigrants, including care en route and while awaiting employment, \$500,000.

**Mr. Bell:** I would like to ask the minister what obligations are placed upon an immigrant coming out under the assisted loan passage scheme to remain in his intended occupation.

**Mr. Harris:** We have had discussions every session on this matter on the estimates and my hon. friend could profitably read the past discussions. But briefly, if we loan him the money to come here he is obliged to remain in employment which we stipulated up to a period of 24 months depending on the time set for the repayment of the loan.

**Mr. Bell:** I just want to make one comment in connection with that. I had a question on the order paper earlier this session asking about the plan, how much had been given out, and how much had been collected, and according to the answer I was pleased to note that something like 79 per cent had been collected. But I asked just how many remained at their stipulated jobs for the period intended and I received the answer that no statistics are maintained. I feel they could easily be gathered because in collecting the loan that has been made there must be some record kept as to where the cheques come from and I offer this as a suggestion. With the present criticism that seems to exist on some aspects of immigration generally I think we should definitely have a record available as to how many come out under the assisted plan and whether they

[Mr. Harris.]

stay at their intended occupation for the stipulated periods. For all we know it may be just a blind or a ruse to bring out a certain group and they may leave after three or four months, even though the loan is paid back in 80 per cent of the cases.

**Mr. Harris:** My hon. friend should not suggest that this government does anything for any motive other than that which it announces. The assisted passage loan scheme was announced by me some three years ago for a specific purpose and it received the endorsement of the house. In fact, I was congratulated for introducing it, and the only criticism there has been with respect to it is the question my hon. friend raises, namely, that the persons who come do not live up to their obligations. But no one in this house has yet suggested that we abandon a policy of that kind. Indeed I think they would prefer that this service be continued and that we continue our efforts to assist people in this way.

**Mr. Bell:** I would like to make it clear that I was not criticizing the plan. I simply asked that figures be made available as to the number of those who remained in their intended occupations.

**Mr. Harris:** Until my hon. friend asked the question no one else did, and we have been trying to study the matter to see if we can get an answer.

Item agreed to.

## Welfare of Indians—

69. Construction or acquisition of buildings, works, land and new equipment, \$962,524.

**Mr. Michener:** Has any figure been worked out on the total public expenditure per capita? There is a very substantial expenditure here of \$18 million. In the Department of National Health and Welfare there is another \$15 million for health services with respect to Indians and Eskimos. It would be interesting to have it if there is such a figure at hand. It would be interesting to know what it is per capita for the population.

**Mr. Harris:** I have not that figure, but I will get it for my hon. friend.

Item agreed to.

## Education—

73. Construction or acquisition of buildings, works, land and new equipment, \$3,824,200.

**Mr. Fulton:** This morning the minister gave us a brief survey of the educational work being done in the department. He referred to arrangements with one of the municipalities for education of the Indian children in their schools. I should like to