APPENDIX No. 5.

Communications re Further Financial Statement.

OTTAWA, Ont., October 22, 1919.

The Hon. Sir Henry Drayton,
Minister of Finance,
Ottawa, Ont.

My Dear Sir Henry,—The Special Committee of the House appointed to consider and report upon Bill No. 10 are desirous of obtaining from you officially a statement as to the commitments of the Government to date that involve expenditures outside of ordinary or current expenditures for the present fiscal year, together with an estimate of such commitments for the next fiscal year.

The Committee desires this information in order that it may know the amount of money that must be raised by loans during the next twelve or eighteen months, including the present Victory Loan.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed.) J. A. CALDER.

Chairman.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE.

OTTAWA, Canada, October 26, 1919.

The Honourable J. A. Calder,
Chairman, Special Committee on Bill No. 10,
Ottawa,

Dear Sir,—Prior to the departure of the Minister of Finance on Friday evening last for Western Canada, I had an opportunity of discussing with him the preparation of a statement setting forth as fully and as accurately as possible the information desired by your Committee as indicated by your letter to the Minister of the 22nd instant.

I have since had this statement prepared and am enclosing herewith five copies. I am sure you will realize that it is practically impossible at present to make any reliable estimate of expenditures for the financial year 1920-21. Until the estimates are brought down for the next fiscal year and appropriations are voted it would not be reasonable to assume that commitments have been made. While this is true there are certain classes of expenditures that are almost certain to be provided for and I have indicated them on the statement herewith submitted. The rough estimates made for them are my own and should be given only such weight by your Committee as may be deemed advisable.

Yours very truly,

(Sgd.) T. C. BOVILLE,

Deputy Minister of Finance.