

Supply—Northern Affairs

recoup two-thirds of that last amount. The city of Quebec and the C.P.R. are to pay one-third each. Repairs to buildings and walls at Lower Fort Garry, Manitoba, \$29,000. We hope to acquire the Batoche rectory at Batoche and have provided \$5,000 for acquisition of and repairs to the Batoche rectory.

Then there is construction at Battleford, as I said a few moments ago, to the extent of about \$21,000. Then there is \$20,000 for the erection of new memorials. This item is for a long list of places. Then there are various smaller items.

Mr. Harkness: It would seem that the bulk of this increase is in these two items in Nova Scotia, Alexander Graham Bell house and the Halifax citadel. What makes the Alexander Graham Bell house so expensive? I think the minister said \$150,000?

Mr. Lesage: It is a new building, a complete museum to house the Alexander Graham Bell relics.

Mr. Harkness: I thought you meant you were buying his old home.

Mr. Lesage: No, that is to build a museum. Item agreed to.

At six o'clock the committee took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The committee resumed at eight o'clock.

National parks branch—

306. Grant to the Jack Miner migratory bird foundation, \$5,000.

Mr. Knight: Mr. Chairman, I am not complaining about this grant, but I should like to know if there are any conditions imposed in connection with it. I know that this family has done valuable work in connection with the conservation of the Canada wild goose, in particular. It has tagged these geese, with the result that certain scientific findings have been made in regard to bird habits.

Are there any conditions attached to the grant, or is it simply an amount given to the family to carry on the work they are now doing? Is there any accounting kept, or any definite research other than the work I have described?

Mr. Lesage: This is an annual grant to the foundation, and there are no strings attached. The grant is to the foundation, not to the family.

Mr. Knight: It is to carry on the work they are known to be doing?

Mr. Lesage: Yes, this conservation work.

Mr. Knight: There is no accounting made by way of definite findings to the department? Is there a report?

Mr. Lesage: I believe the foundation makes a report every year which, if my memory serves me correctly, is received by all members of parliament.

Mr. McBain: Mr. Chairman, I should like to ask a question regarding the Jack Miner bird sanctuary. I happen to know that the late Mr. Miner took a great interest in this sanctuary. I have no doubt that when it was established a number of years ago he spent untold sums of money out of his own pocket. We know that costs have been mounting, and that they will have affected costs in connection with this foundation the same as they have other lines of business in the last few years. I am wondering if the minister has given consideration to increasing the grant, because my understanding is that last year the foundation operated under a deficit of \$5,000.

Mr. Lesage: From the fiscal year 1940-41 to the year 1945-46 the annual grant was \$2,500. Then in the fiscal year 1946-47 it was doubled to \$5,000 a year, and has remained at that figure since that time. We propose the same amount this year.

Mr. Hodgson: The foundation does send out a statement of its affairs each year—at least I have received one. It shows that they have been operating on a deficit which now amounts to about \$5,000. I should think it would be well if the department would consider allowing them another \$1,000 for a year or two until the deficit is wiped out.

Item agreed to.

National parks branch—

307. Grant in aid of the development of the international peace garden in Manitoba, \$10,000.

Mr. Dinsdale: I should like to comment briefly on this item, mainly with a view to bringing hon. members up to date with the progress in connection with the development of the international peace garden on the North Dakota-Manitoba border. Even though the minister has only recently assumed responsibility for the department, I am sure he is well informed in this matter. During recent years the peace garden has come prominently to the attention of the Canadian public as a result of the disturbed conditions on the international front.

Three years ago the grant to the international peace garden was discontinued. We were delighted last year when it was restored, and we are happy again this year