

Supply—Public Printing and Stationery

It has been a project and responsibility very dear to his heart. He has given yeoman service to a cause that I think has left all Canadians conscious of their indebtedness to him. I am not in a position to make any comment on the filling of the vacancy.

Mr. Pickersgill: Perhaps the Minister of Public Works could throw some light on it.

Item agreed to.

PUBLIC PRINTING AND STATIONERY

679. Printing of *Canada Gazette*—further amount required, \$21,000.

Mr. Robichaud: Can the minister tell us why there is an extra cost for the printing of the *Canada Gazette*? Can he inform the committee whether all the work is being done by the printing bureau or is it given out to outside printers on tenders?

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): The occasion for this supplementary estimate is simply that the costs of printing the *Gazette* have exceeded the estimate. The original amount in the main estimates was \$110,000. The amount of expenditure has fluctuated quite a bit year by year. For instance, in the year 1957-58—I will just give round figures—the expenditure was \$110,000; in 1958-59, it jumped to \$156,000; in 1959-60, \$110,000 was provided, and it is found now that an additional \$21,000 is required. But, even with this addition, raising the item to \$131,000, it will be seen that the expenditure is still \$25,000 below that of the previous year. There are wide fluctuations. There is, of course, revenue derived from this publication in the form of advertisements and sales. As to the placing of printing, my understanding is that it is printed in the printing bureau.

Mr. Herridge: Is the reason for this increase attributable at all to the fact that the extra cost is incurred by the publication of notices of increasing bankruptcies?

Mr. Pickersgill: Before the item carries, can the minister give us some notion of what the revenue is?

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): The revenue this year is estimated at \$110,000. Last year it was \$109,000 and the year before \$93,000.

Mr. Pickersgill: Has the minister given any thought to raising the fees?

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): The minister does not like to raise fees. If the hon. gentleman urges me, in deference to him, I will be bound to look into it.

Mr. Pickersgill: As a matter of fact, I took considerable pride in the fact that when I was [Mr. Fleming (Eglinton).]

secretary of state I increased quite a number of those fees and put these things on a paying basis instead of leaving them as a charge on the general taxpayer. I would always commend that policy to the government.

Mr. Robichaud: In view of the explanation given by the minister, and in view of the fact that in 1957-58 the total cost was \$110,000 and in 1958-59 it was \$156,000, how did they arrive at the estimate of \$110,000 for 1959-60?

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): It was thought that the need this year would not be as great. There was an underestimation this year and we either have to have this \$21,000 or there will be a carryover. I think the hon. gentleman will appreciate the fact that the size of this publication varies literally from week to week. It depends on what notices come in for gazetting, and it is extremely difficult to estimate this precisely in advance. I can only point to the experience of those recent years as illustrating the wide fluctuations in expenditure year by year.

Mr. Pickersgill: Can the minister say whether the number of statutory orders is increasing?

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): I would have to look into that matter before attempting to answer the question.

Mr. Pickersgill: The minister will readily appreciate the reason I asked the question. When we were in office we were accused of government by order in council, and I have taken a certain amount of interest in this question over the years. I have the impression that there are just as many orders now, if not more, than there were when we were in office.

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): No; I think we are operating on a much more limited scale. Orders in council are made where necessary, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Pickersgill: Of course they were just made for fun when we were in office.

Item agreed to.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Public buildings construction and services—
Acquisition, construction and improvements of public buildings—

Construction, acquisition, major repairs and improvements of, and plans and sites for, public buildings listed in the details of the estimates, provided that treasury board may increase or decrease the amount within the vote to be expended on individual listed projects—further amount required—

681. Ontario (other than Ottawa), \$1.

Mr. Pickersgill: This is another dollar item.