

*Supply—Privy Council*

**Mr. Deschatelets:** Would the minister tell us if he has lately contacted the authorities of the province of Quebec, whether by telephone or telegram, to that effect?

**Mr. Monteith (Perth):** No, Mr. Speaker.

**ARTS, LETTERS AND SCIENCES****CANADA COUNCIL—CAPITAL GRANTS TO UNIVERSITIES**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. D. M. Fisher (Port Arthur):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister relating to the Canada Council. In view of comments made by the Auditor General in the report tabled yesterday on the division of Canada Council money for university residences, could the Prime Minister advise the house whether consideration is being given to setting out possible limitations on capital grants for this specific aspect of university expenditure?

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister):** I do not want to give an answer to that question offhand. There has certainly been no consideration given as yet to the question raised by the hon. member.

**BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE****REQUEST FOR ANSWER TO QUESTION ON ORDER PAPER**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. C. W. Carter (Burin-Burgeo):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare or to the Minister of Finance, whoever is the appropriate minister in this case. Would it be possible to have an answer to question No. 145, which has been standing in my name since July 1, before the estimates of the Department of National Health and Welfare are brought before the committee of supply?

**Hon. J. W. Monteith (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** I shall be glad to look into this and see if I can get this information immediately.

**SUPPLY**

The house in committee of supply, Mr. Rea in the chair.

**PRIVY COUNCIL****Federal District Commission—**

314. To provide a supplement to the sum of \$300,000 granted by chapter 112, R.S., for construction, improvements and operation of the parks, parkway system and other works under the control of the federal district commission and to authorize the payment of an honorarium at the rate of \$10,000 per annum to the chairman of the federal district commission notwithstanding section 8 of the Federal District Commission Act, \$600,000.

[Mr. Monteith (Perth).]

**The Deputy Chairman:** Shall item 314 carry?

**Mr. Diefenbaker:** Mr. Chairman, I wish to make a short general statement in regard to these estimates, and I believe the general statement would also cover pretty well the various points in connection with the several estimates in respect to the federal district commission. In point of fact we covered a great portion of this during a recent discussion in this house, and for that reason I am just going into a general outline which I feel will explain the estimates as they are presented.

The amounts required by the federal district commission for its regular administration and operations as distinct from its construction program and acquisition of properties are provided from three sources. One of these is a statutory grant of \$300,000 provided under the present Federal District Commission Act. We are proposing to discontinue this grant under the new legislation. That, of course, has already been before the house and is presently before the other place.

The second source of moneys for operations and administration is the revenue earned by the commission from the rental of properties under its administration or from other operations such as the sale of nursery products to government departments and the provision of services to government departments for which payment is made to the commission. A nominal vote is included in the estimates to ensure that there is adequate statutory authority to use this revenue, as there is some doubt as to whether the present statute authorizes it. It is intended that this should be made clear in the revised statute.

The third source of moneys for operations and administration is items 314 and 316. As hon. gentlemen know, under the new statute these two items will be consolidated in one. Vote No. 314 for \$600,000 is to enable the commission to carry out its statutory duties in the maintenance of operations and administration of the parks and parkways system and other works under its control, to enable it to carry on the maintenance and improvement of grounds surrounding government buildings in the capital area, and to meet the expenses of the national capital planning committee. These go beyond the purpose for which the commission was originally established and are responsibilities that extend beyond its own properties. In future it is proposed that these two votes may be grouped together as one for the purpose of simplifying the accounting and the work of control in connection with the appropriations.