

War Appropriation—Army

Mr. RALSTON: I have not the number of cases. The chairman of the board has given me an approximate estimate of over seventy-five per cent.

Mr. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): That are granted?

Mr. RALSTON: Yes.

Mr. HANSELL: I am a little confused as to what is meant by the term "supplementary grants." I know the meaning of the word "supplementary," used in its ordinary sense; but if the minister will look at number 2 on the list he will find it deals with pay and allowances. Are dependents' allowances included in the first amount of \$539,730,211?

Mr. RALSTON: Yes; the item for dependents' allowances has already been passed. The amount paid as dependents' allowances is included in item No. 2, pay and allowances. The hon. member will find a subsequent item for the dependents' allowance board: that is an administrative item, covering the cost of administration of the board. That item has also been passed. The item we are now discussing is the supplementary grants fund, a fund administered by the dependents' board of trustees.

Mr. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): Has the minister put on record the number of cases handled by each committee?

Mr. RALSTON: The number for Regina is 1,337, of which 1,187 were completed; and for Saskatoon, 1,766, of which 1,285 have been completed. The cash paid in Regina is \$21,736.52 and in Saskatoon \$30,821.60. That is for single grants, not including recurrent payments. There would probably be additional recurrent grants to dependents filing applications through these committees.

Mr. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): If the minister had a list of the number of cases handled by the other committees we would have some idea of the comparative service rendered. Perhaps he would put that information on *Hansard*.

Mr. RALSTON: I shall be glad to do so. The following is a list showing the total applications, and the completed ones, that is, those which have been dealt with:

	Total	Complete
Charlottetown	347	336
Saint John	1,332	1,127
Halifax	1,158	851
Quebec	7,652	6,967
Montreal	3,782	2,566
Kingston	708	529
Ottawa	1,887	1,616
Toronto	6,850	6,035

[Mr. T. C. Douglas.]

	Total	Complete
Hamilton	2,102	1,617
Peterborough	685	607
London	1,435	992
Windsor	571	374
Sudbury	719	491
Port Arthur	269	207
Winnipeg	2,829	2,530
Regina	1,337	1,187
Saskatoon	1,766	1,285
Calgary	1,377	1,090
Edmonton	1,439	1,088
Vancouver	2,618	1,510
Victoria	1,154	729
Total.....	42,017	33,734

Mr. GRAHAM: I know that the minister will not have this information but I think he will agree that there will be a tendency for dependents who reside in centres where the boards have representation to make greater use of and secure greater benefits from the dependents' board of trustees because they know where the board is located and their access to the board is very easy. With reference to the different points which have been named by the minister, how many of these applications arose in the city in which the board committee resides and how many in the surrounding district? It would be well if the chairman were requested to make a survey of one or two points to see whether the benefits are penetrating the countryside and whether the board's purpose is being fulfilled of distributing the benefits fairly among all dependents, not only in the larger centres but in the rural areas and small villages and towns.

Mr. RALSTON: The statistics asked for by my hon. friend are not available here but they are kept and they can be produced either in the form of a return or in some other way which would be convenient to the members. Notwithstanding the fact that the boards are located in the cities I am informed that there is a very heavy number of rural applications.

Item agreed to.

B—Sundry services.

Inspection board of the United Kingdom and Canada, \$10,600,000.

Mr. MacNICOL: Has Canada full control over the inspection board of the United Kingdom and Canada?

Mr. RALSTON: No, it is a joint United Kingdom and Canada inspection board. The sponsorship of the board is joint with the High Commissioner of the United Kingdom and the Minister of National Defence of Canada. The Minister of National Defence in turn derives his powers in regard to the Canadian end from the governor in council.