

heavy expansion program abroad which will, of course, be reflected in headquarters work as well. As a matter of fact, we do expect things to be a bit tighter in headquarters this year, for obviously new posts will have to be staffed with experienced personnel. We can of course recruit replacements and start training them at headquarters—and we do, by the regular examination procedure of the Civil Service Commission. But, as we explained last year, there is always a lag in our staffing. We do not wish to fill our total requirements in any one year; for if we did we would have to take a good many candidates of a lower standard than is usually found at the top of each graduating class. We therefore strive to keep enough positions open to provide for the best candidates who graduate from year to year and who qualify in our entrance examinations. This policy keeps us a little bit shy of staff—but we feel that in the long run it pays dividends. We are not really as badly off as the figures might seem to indicate. Although the continuing establishment we are requesting is 554 people in departmental administration for the coming year, our actual strength is lower than this—546 persons on December 31, 1952. So that even if none were moved abroad to new posts, we would still have room for a modest intake.

The increase in the continuing establishment for representation abroad—from 753 to 836—is almost entirely accounted for by the staff needs of the new posts to be opened during this coming fiscal year.

Members of the committee may have noticed that the expenses of the Canadian section of the Permanent Joint Board on Defence have now been included under the departmental administration Vote No. 85. In previous years the expenses of this board have appeared as a separate vote of \$10,000 with provision being made in it to pay a salary to the chairman of the Canadian section. As the full salary of the chairman of the board has now been placed in the estimates for the International Joint Commission there is no longer need to provide for part of his salary separately in the estimates for the board. We have therefore discontinued that vote and have absorbed the remainder of the vote—the travelling expenses of the board—in our vote for departmental administration.

That is all, Mr. Chairman, I think I need to say at the moment in a general way in introducing our estimates. My statement today and the mimeographed material which has been distributed to the committee have been intended to anticipate questions which may arise in your minds, and to explain broadly what we are requesting and why. Needless to say, I and the other officers of the department will be glad to furnish whatever further information you may need as the various votes come up for consideration.

Mr. MACDOUGALL: Mr. Chairman, we have, I believe, a consul-general now in the person of Norman Senior in San Francisco. Is there a great increase in the work in that area, the Pacific northwest, that will apparently, in the eyes of the department, justify another placement in Los Angeles?

The WITNESS: Yes, we find that there is a real need for consular representation on the Pacific coast. We have a consul-general at San Francisco. Mr. Senior has been acting in that position—his rank is that of consul—but a new consul general, Mr. Eberts, is going shortly to take up his position in San Francisco. In Los Angeles there is a very large Canadian colony, and there is a great deal of work to be done to make Canada better known there, in the way of answering inquiries about Canada, in promoting tourist work, and in looking after all sorts of inquiries in addition. There was a trade office in Los Angeles under the Department of Trade and Commerce and we found that this office was receiving a lot of inquiries which did not have much to do with trade. Many of these inquiries were of a general nature which had more to do with the Department of External Affairs. So Trade and Commerce