

EVIDENCE

TUESDAY, February 24, 1959.

The CHAIRMAN: All right, gentlemen. This morning we will resume consideration of item 186 of the 1959-60 estimates for the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys, concerning departmental administration. You all have a copy of the minister's statement of the first meeting. It is in the No. 1 printing of our proceedings. You are entitled to question the minister and to make observations.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Item 186 Departmental Administration\$687,289

Mr. COATES: I wonder if the minister has the figures I requested with regard to personnel?

Hon. PAUL COMTOIS (*Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys*): Yes; it will not be long.

Mr. COATES: If it is long, Mr. Chairman, it could be incorporated.

Mr. COMTOIS: In 1955-56 the total number of staff was 3,357, including seasonal employees and summer employees; in 1958-59 the figure is 3,633, and in 1959-60 the figure is 3,761.

Mr. COATES: Do these figures include seasonal employees as well?

Mr. COMTOIS: Yes.

Mr. DUMAS: How many seasonal employees were there in the same years?

Mr. COMTOIS: The number of seasonal employees is pretty steady. The figure is about 1,200—I think it is about that.

The CHAIRMAN: That is for each one of those years?

Mr. COMTOIS: Roughly, yes.

Mr. DUMAS: Between 1,200 and 1,300?

Mr. COMTOIS: Yes. Would you like to have the details on those figures; are you interested in having a breakdown?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Minister, that is what he requested.

Mr. COATES: I would like to have a breakdown.

Mr. COMTOIS: Geological survey 1955-56, 504; 1958-59, 648; 1959-60, 614.

Mr. COATES: They have dropped a third in the last year.

Mr. COMTOIS: Yes, in that branch. There are less this year because of the 50 additional employees who were added last year for the summer program.

Mr. COATES: This figure of 614 might be increased during the year?

Dr. MARC BOYER (*Deputy Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys*): We employed the 50 additional students last year as a result of representations being made to us; there were quite a number of university students unable to obtain summer employment and the government of Canada, as well as the provincial governments, assisted by increasing their field parties in order to make more jobs available.

The same pressure has not been experienced as yet this year and we are dropping the extra 50 students whom we added to our regular program last year.