

Supply—Transport—Flying Clubs

Mr. BARBER: In connection with lighting and radio service, are all the fields in the west, and particularly in the mountain section, to be lighted and supplied with radio service, or just certain fields?

Mr. HOWE: What we describe as the hundred-mile fields—as a matter of fact they are a little closer together than that—will be completely lighted. Those fields are regarded as essential in twin-engine, high-speed flying. The intermediate, or thirty-mile fields, which are not main fields, will have boundary lighting, but the runways will not be lighted to the extent they are lighted on the main fields.

Mr. BARBER: What about radio?

Mr. HOWE: The radio beams are located at intervals of about one hundred miles.

Item agreed to.

Grants to aeroplane clubs, including grant of \$5,000 to the Canadian Flying Clubs Association, \$60,000.

Mr. GREEN: This is one vote which I think the minister might increase. The other day he said that the training of pilots and ground crews in Canada was on a rather haphazard basis. I suggest to him that if a larger grant were made to these clubs; if more aircraft were given to them, and if new clubs were established, this might go some distance in overcoming the present difficulty in training pilots and ground crews.

Mr. HOWE: The training clubs are on a better business basis to-day than they have ever been. The way to encourage training clubs is not necessarily to give them large grants, but rather to give them such help as they need to run their clubs efficiently. We find that by following that procedure we are getting efficiency in the clubs.

This vote is the same as was given last year. With the help indicated in this vote the clubs are working into first-class financial position; some in the larger centres are becoming quite affluent. If we doubled or trebled the vote, I doubt if we would get any better service than we are getting to-day. I know of no club which has not sufficient equipment for its work; in fact, some have more equipment than they really need.

Some discussion has taken place as to whether or not the clubs are willing to give more advanced training. We do not want all the clubs to have advanced training, but we think an advanced training school for certain districts could be organized. I have told the clubs that if they can work out practical arrangements which would be satisfactory to

[Mr. Howe.]

themselves and to officers of this department, we would then consider a further grant to help them in the next step in flying. I may say that the grants to clubs have varied from the sublime to the ridiculous. The following list will indicate the amounts which have been given:

1927-28..	\$ 47,000
1928-29..	165,000
1929-30..	117,000
1930-31..	84,000
1931-32..	37,000
1932-33..	20,000
1933-34..	22,000
1934-35..	30,000
1935-36..	74,000
1936-37..	109,000
1937-38..	60,000

After a good deal of study we have come to the conclusion that these clubs can function very well on about \$60,000 a year, until some further advanced training is undertaken.

Mr. GREEN: If the clubs should cooperate, as the minister suggests, and if they set up more advanced training schools, is the vote large enough?

Mr. HOWE: If a conclusion is reached before parliament prorogues, we may consider additional aid; but if not, the grant will have to stand for this year. There is no great urgency in the matter.

Mr. GREEN: How are the clubs divided? How many are there in the different provinces?

Mr. HOWE: There is the Aerial Club of British Columbia, the Brandon Aerial Club, the Brant and Norfolk Aerial Club, the Border Cities Club, the Cape Breton Flying Club, the Calgary Aerial Club, the Edmonton and Northern Alberta Club, the Fort William Aerial Club, and other clubs at Halifax, Hamilton, Kingston, Kitchener and Waterloo, London, Moose Jaw, Montreal, Ottawa, Regina, St. Catharines, Saint John, Saskatoon, Toronto and Winnipeg.

Mr. GREEN: Does the government take steps to help in the promotion of clubs, or are they started by groups of individuals in different localities?

Mr. HOWE: The association of flying clubs has an efficient secretary in Mr. Ross, who looks after that part of the business very well. I know that with his help there is no trouble in starting a club.

Mr. LOCKHART: I noted the minister made reference to the different clubs throughout Canada which are receiving assistance. May I join with the hon. member for Vancouver South in urging that increases be given. The matter of financing is part of the difficulty of municipalities which are mak-