

Supply—Justice

more than \$400,000 or \$500,000 a year as a set limit for this assistance, then in my opinion certain arrangements or agreements could be arrived at with the provinces concerned, since this is assistance that concerns only the Atlantic provinces and Quebec, to the effect that each province could not use more than a certain percentage of that amount, but I still insist that the basis of the assistance should be increased from \$165 to \$265 a gross ton. My reason for insisting on this is that the fisherman who purchases a boat that costs him \$70,000 is put to very heavy expense which he has to cover during the fishing period which in most of the provinces, especially in New Brunswick, Quebec and Prince Edward Island, is limited to a season of six months.

On a \$70,000 boat the fisherman is called upon to pay at least \$2,000 a year in interest alone. He has to pay insurance costs in the vicinity of \$1,000 besides that. In most cases he has to pay municipal taxes on the vessel amounting to \$700 or often up to \$1,000 a year.

If the purpose of this item is to help the fishermen on the basis of approximately 25 per cent of the cost of the vessel, and as the cost has more than doubled in the last 10 or 12 years, I again urge the minister to give this request very serious consideration.

Item agreed to.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

660. Northwest Territories—Administration of justice in the Northwest Territories, including the Northwest Territories territorial court—further amount required, \$7,300.

Mr. Chevrier: Will the minister tell us what this item is for? I do not think the details are clear enough.

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): This is a sum required to meet additional expenditures incurred in the course of administration of justice in the Northwest Territories. This additional expenditure has been incurred in retaining the services of outside reporters and the services of sheriffs.

Mr. Chevrier: I see in the details that a portion of this item, \$5,600, is for the maintenance of prisoners and juvenile delinquents. May I have some explanation of that?

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): These are expenses incurred in connection with some very lengthy trials, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Pickersgill: Are these expenses in the Northwest Territories defrayed by the federal government and not by the territorial administration, as they would be in a province?

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): Yes, we are responsible. This is in addition to the item that was provided in the main estimates of approximately \$107,000.

Item agreed to.

661. Combines Investigation Act—Office of investigation and research—further amount required, \$35,000.

Mr. Chevrier: Can the minister give some explanation of this item, and also can he tell the committee what the position is with reference to the Combines Investigation Act. The minister may recall that there was legislation on the order paper at the last session, which was amended first in one direction—I forget the details at the moment—and then later on it was decided to drop another portion of the legislation, and finally it was not proceeded with. Is it the intention to proceed with it at this session?

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): Mr. Chairman, this \$35,000 is required in connection with expenditures for fees and expenses of counsel, reporters, witnesses and other special assistants. The expenditure incurred in this respect was larger than was originally estimated.

In reference to the inquiry about legislation, I believe it is the intention of my colleague, the Minister of Justice, to introduce a bill during the present session.

Mr. Pickersgill: What does this \$35,000 represent in relation to the whole item? What is the item?

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): The original item was \$452,109.

Mr. Pickersgill: That is about an 8 per cent increase?

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): Yes.

Mr. Pickersgill: Which is a pretty substantial increase. Is this all for one trial?

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): I understand not, but I speak subject to correction on that point. As to this 8 per cent increase, I think the hon. member will appreciate that in this field it is very hard to estimate. You do not always know when estimating in the previous year what trials you are going to encounter during the following year, or what the length of those trials is going to be. It is very difficult at times to estimate the length of a trial, and so far as the expense is concerned it is determined to some extent by the length.

Mr. Pickersgill: Has the minister got the total cost of a recent celebrated unsuccessful prosecution undertaken by the government?

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): No, I have not. I would doubt if the expense has been fully tallied up yet, anyway.

Item agreed to.