

Mr. FULTON: I do not understand. I thought it stood at nothing because your expenditures last year did not come up to your item of allotment. How then did you manage to exhaust your contingency fund?

Mr. MCGREGOR: We did not exhaust the contingency fund.

Mr. FOLLWELL: The reason why you have such a good report is because you took contingency money and put it into your actual budget figures here?

Mr. MCGREGOR: No. The contingency provision in 1949 was \$563,000.00, while the under expenditure of the budget was \$1,800,000.

The CHAIRMAN: Does not the statement say that you have spent your contingency fund?

Mr. MCGREGOR: In fact, it was simply transferred out of the fund.

Mr. FOLLWELL: I do not understand that yet.

The CHAIRMAN: The statement shows that none of the contingency fund has been required, or has been spent.

Mr. MUTCH: The actual fund shown is nil.

Mr. FULTON: The actual expenditure is shown as being 100 per cent.

The CHAIRMAN: No, nil.

Mr. FULTON: Oh well, I guess I am looking at the wrong thing.

The CHAIRMAN: Item 15, does it carry?

Carried.

Mr. POULIOT: It should have been voted from a contingency fund.

The CHAIRMAN: You had a question to be answered in regard to "Airplane Power Plants", Mr. Drew?

Mr. DREW: Yes. Perhaps it could come out under the heading of "Contingency Fund", as I would think that some of the expenditures would, perhaps, come from there. Are TCA planes used for any of the special flights of government officials?

Mr. MCGREGOR: No. TCA aircraft, if they are available, are available for charter to the government as well as to any other potential customer.

Mr. DREW: Have they been chartered during the past year for that purpose?

Mr. MCGREGOR: No.

Mr. DREW: Or this year?

Mr. MCGREGOR: No. We bid on a charter but we were turned down.

Mr. DREW: Which was that?

Mr. MCGREGOR: That was the round the world flight which Mr. Pearson took.

Mr. DREW: The RCAF were able to make a lower bid for that flight?

Mr. MCGREGOR: Exactly.

Mr. DREW: What was your bid for that?

Mr. MCGREGOR: I do not remember the figure. It was our regular charter rate.

Mr. DREW: Would you check that up and provide the figure? It is a matter, after all, of accounting.

Mr. MUTCH: If it is a regular charter rate, then it is not confidential.

Mr. DREW: No, it cannot be confidential.

The CHAIRMAN: The minister is not here and I am not too experienced on this committee. I would rather that the question should stand, unless there is some departmental rule.

Mr. DREW: I would point out in that respect that we obviously have the right to know what the expenditure would be for a purpose of that kind. It