

helmet that will give not only greater security but further facilities for use, particularly by signallers and services of that kind.

Mr. DOUGLAS (Weyburn): No decision has been reached?

Mr. RALSTON: No. With regard to the revolver I can only say to my hon. friend that the possibility of improvement of weapons is always under consideration, and that supply has something to do with the matter. I can go no farther than that at the moment.

Mr. GRAYDON: I think in connection with all these items we should be given a break-down of the expenditures which are bulked here under several heads. Item No. 5, for instance, covers expenditures under personnel supplies and services; food, medical and dental stores, clothing and personal equipment; total \$185,868,300. I should like to have a break-down, showing the expenditures under personnel, supplies and services, and so forth, if the minister has that information available. If it is not available at the moment, perhaps the minister will put it on *Hansard*.

Mr. RALSTON: I can give it now roughly. Personnel supplies and services, \$107,000,000; food, \$60,000,000; medical and dental stores, \$19,000,000.

Mr. GREEN: Why is there an increase of \$40,000,000 in this item?

Mr. RALSTON: The increases are to provide for an increase in personnel over the average of last year and to provide for a higher cost of issue of rations, not only of rations, but some other supplies as well.

Mr. GREEN: What is the average cost per man in the army for a year for food and clothing and various other supplies?

Mr. RALSTON: My hon. friend understands that there are two or three divisions. Take clothing: what they call the vocabulary, as made up here, comes to roughly \$85 for clothing and all personal outfitting. That does not include rifles or any equipment of that kind. In addition to that, for certain parts of Canada and for Newfoundland there is an addition of about \$25.

Mr. GREEN: For clothing, et cetera?

Mr. RALSTON: Yes.

Mr. GREEN: That is, per year?

Mr. RALSTON: No. That is the initial outfit. The total cost would depend upon how often it is renewed.

Mr. GREEN: Has the minister the figures for cost of food per year per man?

Mr. RALSTON: No; I have not the cost of food.

Mr. GREEN: Could the minister get that?

Mr. RALSTON: I do not know whether I can or not. I will see if I can.

Mr. NOSEWORTHY: Could the minister give us information regarding the regulations for issuing uniforms overseas? I have been informed that a number of men overseas are still wearing the uniforms they were issued three years ago. Some of them report that theirs have become so threadbare they are ashamed to wear them. I wonder if that can be possible.

Mr. RALSTON: Of course I would say at first blush that it could not be possible, but I have learned enough on this job not to be surprised at anything, and I am very careful about making statements of that kind. Certainly, if the fact is as stated, there must be some most extraordinary situation in connection with it. I know that the supply of clothing is ample.

Mr. NOSEWORTHY: How frequently are uniforms issued?

Mr. RALSTON: There is no particular time. Uniforms are issued when a new issue is regarded as being required. The man gets the new issue and his part-worn one is worn as a second. My hon. friend, I suppose, does not want to give me the name of his correspondent, or the boy will be regarded as complaining; but would he give me the unit?

Mr. NOSEWORTHY: Yes; I can give the minister the name.

Mr. RALSTON: Could he give me the unit?

Mr. NOSEWORTHY: Yes. I have the letter.

Mr. RALSTON: I would appreciate it.

Mr. NOSEWORTHY: I have the letter which came from the soldier overseas. He makes the statement that he has been unable to get a new uniform since he got over, and the uniform he is wearing is out at the elbows and out at the knees.

Mr. RALSTON: I may say that the estimate for clothing this year is down from last year, on account of the fact that we have a bigger reserve on hand; so that the two things do not jibe.