

Supply—Privy Council

Then perhaps I might give the column showing the original building costs:

Description	Original Building Cost
Oil field depot and tank farm	\$1,354,000
Wharves	806,000
N/A teacher and offices	474,000
Floating dock site	355,000
Hospital	730,000
Administrations and quarters	515,000
Stores and harbour craft buildings	807,800
South side machine shops	437,000
Dockyard cafeteria	122,000
W/T Stations—Bay Bulls Road	111,500
Cape Spear P.W.S.S. & D.E.M.S.	25,000
A/S Training centre	28,000
Fort Amherst, P.W.S.S. & C.M. Station..	38,850
South Side Barracks	740,000

Then, the total cost of the remaining assets is \$12,681,646 for which we have undertaken to pay \$7 million.

Mr. Pouliot: Was all this property purchased from the British government, and, if so, was it paid for in Canadian or American dollars?

Mr. Abbott: It is to be purchased from the British government, and it will be paid for in Canadian dollars; and the Canadian dollars, of course, will be expended in Canada.

Mr. Browne (St. John's West): Where is the hospital located?

Mr. Abbott: I have not that information. I am not familiar with the location.

Item agreed to.

PRIVY COUNCIL OFFICE

593. General administration, further amount required, \$6,500.

Mr. Pouliot: Before this is carried, I have a duty to fulfil. May I pay tribute to the Prime Minister for one of his gracious accomplishments in appointing the Hon. George Black, K.C., and the Hon. J. L. Bowman, K.C., two former Speakers, as members of the privy council of Canada.

The late Mr. Bennett was reluctant to do that. When the former prime minister was approached he said to leave it in his hands, but nothing was done. I remember that those two gentlemen, with the present incumbent of that high position, have constituted the three most distinguished, fearless, fair and just Speakers whom I have seen occupy the chair since I have been a member of the House of Commons.

It is precisely because the Hon. Mr. Black and the Hon. Mr. Bowman were fearless that the late Mr. Bennett refused to appoint them to the privy council, as all other Speakers had been. Therefore I compliment the Prime Minister for having been gracious enough to

appoint to the privy council those two barristers of high standing who so well fulfilled their duties as Speakers of the House of Commons. May I add that while the previous leader of the opposition, who was approached in the matter, apparently did nothing, the present one was favourable to the suggestion, and I give him credit for it. Better late than never.

Item agreed to.

594. To provide for expenses of the royal commission on national development in the arts, letters and sciences—further amount required, \$26,041.

Mr. Fleming: Item 594 provides for expenses of the royal commission on national development in the arts, letters and sciences. I should like to ask in the first place when it may be expected that the commission may complete its sittings and render its report, if the government has had any intimation in that respect. In the second place, I should like to ask for some details of this item. Details are not given for the \$26,041.

Mr. Abbott: I will have to answer the second question first. I have no information to give my hon. friend as to the first question. I would have to communicate his question to the Prime Minister. The \$26,041 which is requested in this supplementary estimate is required to reimburse another vote, 100, in the Department of Finance which approved the payment of \$26,041. That is the contingencies vote. The total expenditures that are estimated in this fiscal year will be first the vote of \$93,525 together with the additional amount of \$26,041, making a total of \$119,566 up to the end of the current fiscal year. My hon. friend will recall that there is an additional amount in the estimates which I tabled a month ago for the coming fiscal year.

Mr. Fleming: May we take it from the minister's statement that the \$119,000 liquidates all commitments in respect of the royal commission to March 31?

Mr. Abbott: That is my understanding. Yes, that is correct; that is what it is intended to do.

Mr. Fleming: When can we get an answer from the Prime Minister as to the other part of the question?

Mr. Abbott: I will bring my hon. friend's question to his attention, although I do not know whether he will be in a position to answer it either.

Mr. Knight: Is the work of the commission finished? Is it still holding hearings?