

*Yukon Act*

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. I wonder if the minister would find it possible to discuss the bill without detailed consideration of the clauses at this stage, because it goes from here to committee, and if there is a principle which runs through the bill perhaps it would be well to confine the debate at this stage to that principle. If it is a series of isolated amendments then, of course, there is no other way in which the hon. gentleman could proceed.

**Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle):** Mr. Speaker, it would assist me a great deal if I could merely review again the main principles of the bill. The first four amendments are administrative. The first deals with the power of the commissioner in council to borrow and lend money and extends the freedom of the territorial government to take action in this very necessary part of a provincial government's activities. The next amendment is in connection with police magistrates and is designed to give the Yukon territory the same provisions that apply in the Northwest Territories with respect to the appointment of deputy police magistrates.

The third amendment gives to the governor in council the right to appoint judicial and other officers for the due administration of justice in the territory. The fourth amendment deals with the importation of liquor into the territory, and simply gives the right to the commissioner to appoint another person to authorize such importation of liquor.

The fifth amendment deals with the precise description of the territorial boundaries.

With those remarks I can conclude by saying that these are moves to increase the efficiency of the administration of the Yukon territorial government and broaden its powers, as part of the transitional procedure of giving to this area increasing authority over its own affairs in the ultimate hope that some day it will be a province of this dominion.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and the house went into committee thereon, Mr. Rea in the chair.

On clause 1—*Borrowing and lending.*

**Mr. Herridge:** Mr. Chairman, we in this group read the bill and listened to the minister's remarks with keen interest. The necessity for the introduction of the bill to improve the efficiency of the administration of the Yukon Territory clearly indicates the growth and expansion of that area, and the broadening of the powers of the commission is, we hope, another step in the evolution toward the development of a provincial administration in the Yukon Territory.

With respect to clause 1, would the minister give the committee some further information as to how the funds are borrowed and how the financing is done; to what account borrowings are charged and things of that nature so we can better understand the relationship between financing in the Yukon Territory and in the provinces?

**Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle):** Mr. Speaker, in answer to the hon. member for Kootenay West, what I could do is give him a statement of the revenues and expenditures of the territory, which will illustrate the proportion of income from federal and local sources.

**Mr. Herridge:** Yes; that is what I wanted.

**Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle):** Using the 1956-57 figures, the total revenues of the Yukon Territory were \$2.1 million. These were broken down, in round figures, as shown in the following tabulation:

Revenues—1956-57	Amount
Tax revenue .....	\$400,000
Licence revenue .....	140,000
Fees .....	9,000
Road Tolls .....	33,000
Fines .....	8,000
Miscellaneous .....	59,000
Expenditures recovered .....	24,000
Federal subsidy and grant .....	588,000
School fees .....	84,000
Equipment and rentals .....	25,000
Liquor profits .....	731,000
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$2.1 million</b>

In simple terms, Mr. Chairman, the big revenue sources are first, liquor profits; second, ordinary tax revenue; and third, the subsidy from the federal government, which is similar to the dominion-provincial subsidy.

The expenditures are illustrated by the following tabulation:

Expenditures—1956-57	Amount
Administration .....	\$159,000
Municipal and town administration .....	106,000
Education .....	454,000
Health and welfare .....	330,000
Roads, bridges and public works .....	623,000
<b>Sub-total .....</b>	<b>\$1.6 million</b>
Capital expenditures .....	\$876,000
<b>Grand total .....</b>	<b>\$2.5 million</b>

In the year 1956-57 there was an excess of expenditure over revenue of \$439,000. It should be pointed out that capital expenditures are included in the statement. This section actually gives power to the territorial government to borrow money rather than paying everything out of the annual revenue.

**Mr. Argue:** Can the minister give the committee some idea of the amount of money that may be borrowed under the authority of this section, how the money is to be borrowed, what the terms are and generally just how this power may be used?