

The Budget—Mr. Monteith

have taken over parts of the staff of former departments, the original departments have grown to exceed their previous establishments. I have not hunted out all the instances where Parkinson's law has operated to a point where I am convinced that the citizens of Canada are being "had", but I would mention the Department of Trade and Commerce, which was to lose part of its staff to the Department of Industry, and the Department of Labour which was to lose part of its establishment to the Department of Manpower and Immigration. Both trade and commerce and labour are now larger than ever.

To show how this all mounts up to an ever-increasing charge on the Canadian taxpayer I wish to mention a few figures. Total civil salaries and wages for 1966-67 were estimated to be \$1,087 million odd and the actual amount turned out to be \$1,165 million odd. The actual figure was larger than the estimated figure by about \$78 million. In 1966-67 the actual figure was \$1,165 million odd, and in 1965-66 the actual figure was \$1,018 million odd. In one year, therefore, the actual increase was \$146 million. The 1967-68 estimated civil salaries and wages are \$1,307 million. The 1966-67 actual figure, as I mentioned earlier, was \$1,165 million odd, the estimated increase so far being over \$142 million. I would imagine that when the final figures are available the increase over last year will be in the neighbourhood of \$200 million.

In these two years the total payroll will have increased in the neighbourhood of \$350 million and there will be some 25,000 additional employees. Many devoted civil servants, of course, are grossly underpaid but surely there comes a time to give some consideration to the people who are being taxed to pay these salaries and to pay for this tremendous escalation in the number of public servants.

I wish to mention also the estimates for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. The actual expenditure for 1966-67 was \$114 million plus. The actual expenditure for 1965-66 was \$99 million plus, the increase being \$15 million plus. The estimated figure for 1967-68 is approximately \$144 million. As I say, the actual 1966-67 figure was \$114 million plus. The estimated increase for this current fiscal period is, therefore, \$29,476,000 for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. The total increase for two years is roughly \$44,500,000 or 44.5 per cent.

Over the years I have not been one of those members of parliament who have continuously belaboured the C.B.C. In fact, I was acting

[Mr. Monteith.]

minister reporting to the house for some six months during the illness of the late Hon. George Nowlan. But I do ask, Mr. Speaker, where are we going? There just has to be a change of attitude on the part of the government toward this reckless spending.

Mr. Sharp: Would the hon. member permit a short question?

Mr. Monteith: Yes.

Mr. Sharp: I should be the last one to object to any lecture on the virtues of economy from the other side, but I should like to ask the hon. gentleman, for the sake of the record, to explain the basis of his suggestion that our expenditures will rise by 20 per cent this year. I can find nothing to justify that statement, either in the record or in what I have said.

• (3:30 p.m.)

Mr. Monteith: I arrived at that figure the other evening by comparing the estimates of the relevant years. I do not have my estimates book with me at this moment, but when I do I shall be pleased to prove the correctness of what I have said and place it on record subsequently. The estimates for this year are 20 per cent greater than the estimates for last year.

The third area about which I complain, among many others I might mention if time permitted, is the allotment for the Company of Young Canadians. This venture is the responsibility of the Prime Minister (Mr. Pearson) and I have heard rumours to the effect he now wishes he had never been gullible enough to fall for the gimmick. In its first year, 1965-66, expenditure on this project was approximately \$45,000. In 1966-67 the actual expenditure was \$1,208,000. It is proposed that in 1967-68 \$2,445,000 should be spent. I realize that hon. gentlemen opposite will not consider \$2.5 million worth worrying about in comparison with the over-all expenditures of this government. But, after all, this is the taxpayers' money, and an expenditure of this size should be weighed just as carefully as the increase of \$115 million in the Department of National Defence.

What value are Canadian citizens getting for their money? The executive director indicates there are some 46 employees on the staff, of whom 26 are stationed in Ottawa and the remainder in five regional offices. The whimsical guess of the Prime Minister that there would be some 2,500 volunteers certainly never materialized. My understanding is