

*Supply—National Capital Commission*

committee why the vote with respect to transportation fell so short for the present fiscal year?

**Mr. Fleming (Eglinton):** Mr. Chairman, this is a matter of the increased volume of mail and the extension of the services. With the development of the country, it is a growth factor we are facing here.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Are there any increases in rates involved?

**Mr. Fleming (Eglinton):** There are increases in the contract rates, but apart from that the increases are all in volume and services.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Could the minister say whether he knows if any recent consideration has been given to the possibility of having an all-up airmail service across Cabot strait? As the minister knows there have recently been a lot of snow storms and there have been periods when the Newfoundland express has not moved very far within a week. In this modern age there would be, apparently, much to be said for having an all-up service from Sydney. Could the minister say whether any recent consideration has been given to that?

**Mr. Fleming (Eglinton):** Mr. Chairman, there is nothing in the present item for that purpose but I will be pleased to bring the point raised by the hon. member to the attention of my colleague, the Postmaster General.

**Mr. Regier:** Mr. Chairman, would the minister be good enough to place on the record how much the main estimates contain and also the supplementary estimates in order that we may appreciate the relationship?

**Mr. Fleming (Eglinton):** Mr. Chairman, I think that is the only item of the kind. At this moment I do not have the vote in the main item but I am sending for it and will get it.

Item agreed to.

## PRIVY COUNCIL

## Special—

676. Expenses of the royal commission on the Great Slave Lake Railway including the payment, notwithstanding the Civil Service Act, of honoraria or allowances as may be authorized by the treasury board, to officers, clerks or employees permanently employed in the civil service for services rendered by them to the commission—further amount required, \$7,500.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Mr. Chairman, I think we ought to hear a progress report on the railway which the government was going to build in 1957 and which is now just a royal commission.

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**Mr. Fleming (Eglinton):** Mr. Chairman, the present item relates entirely to the expenses of the royal commission. The committee is well acquainted with the terms of reference to that commission. It was expected that the commission would complete its work by this time and I am told that the work of the commission is almost complete.

Item agreed to.

677. Expenses pertaining to the visit to Canada in 1959 of Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness the Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, including authority, notwithstanding the Civil Service Act or any other act but subject to the approval of treasury board, to appoint and to pay persons to be engaged temporarily in connection therewith—further amount required, \$43,000.

(Translation):

**Mr. Boulanger:** Mr. Chairman, is this amount of \$43,000 additional to what has already been spent for the Queen's visit?

**Mr. Fleming (Eglinton):** The original amount, Mr. Chairman, was \$300,000.

(Text):

Item agreed to.

## NATIONAL CAPITAL COMMISSION

678. Interest charges on outstanding loans that were made for the purpose of acquiring property in the national capital region—further amount required, \$110,000.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the minister could say whether the government has yet reached a conclusion as to who is to take the place of Major General Kennedy? I am sure all of us are very sorry to learn that a gentleman who has done so much for the development of the national capital is no longer to be there and there is, of course, the greatest concern in the capital that the ablest possible person should be chosen to get on with this work.

**Mr. Herridge:** I want to join with the hon. member for Bonavista-Twillington, with whom I rarely find myself in agreement, in the complimentary remarks just made with respect to Major General Kennedy whom all of us realize has rendered great service to the Canadian people in his work in connection with the national capital commission.

**Mr. Fleming (Eglinton):** Mr. Chairman, I, too, am pleased to join with the two hon. members in paying tribute to the work which has been accomplished by Major General Howard Kennedy. The matter will be referred to on some other occasion, but on this occasion I am happy to join with them in this tribute.

We are all aware of the formidable nature of the work that has been performed by General Kennedy. For some years now he has headed the national capital commission.