

<i>Category</i>	<i>Number</i>
No action as yet	20
Executive has indicated disagreement with recommendation	16
Progress being made	13
Implemented	2
Soon to be implemented	2
Action taken not satisfactory	1
Withdrawn by the Public Accounts Committee	1
	<hr/>
	55

Your Committee wishes to stress that if parliamentary control of public funds is to be effective, more prompt and effective action must be taken by Ministers, Deputy Ministers and other responsible government officials towards implementing your Committee's recommendations or a reasoned explanation given as to why such recommendations are not acceptable.

On November 18, 1968, the House passed the following Order of Reference:

Ordered,—That Booklets illustrating the proposed form of Estimates be referred to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts.

In the period November 21, 1968 to January 23, 1969, your Committee held nine meetings to study the proposed new form of Estimates. At the first meeting on this order of reference, the President of the Treasury Board, Hon. C. M. Drury, assisted by Mr. S. S. Reisman, Secretary of the Treasury Board, made a statement to the Committee and appealed for suggestions.

During the course of the meetings, the following officers were in attendance and provided immeasurable assistance to your Committee:

From the Treasury Board:

Mr. Sylvain Cloutier, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Board;

Mr. J. G. Glashan, Director of Estimates and Supply Procedures Division;

And from the Auditor General's office:

Mr. A. M. Henderson, Auditor General;

Mr. G. R. Long, Assistant Auditor General.

In his introductory remarks on November 21, 1968, the President of the Treasury Board indicated that the 236 votes in the present Vote structure would, following the introduction of the revised form of Estimates, result in a reduction of approximately one hundred votes. The members agreed with the primary objective of the new form of Estimates which is to develop a meaningful and informative presentation of the votes of all departments and agencies. Concern was expressed over the reduction in the number of votes and the possible weakening of parliamentary control of public expenditure. Officials of the Treasury Board and Auditor General's staff collaborated in defining effective criteria as to the amounts and areas of spending which merited a separate vote of the House. These criteria are recommended by your Com-