

it here this afternoon, and Dr. Davidson would have been able to tell us about it. But, until it is introduced in the House of Commons I do not think we can—

Senator GROSART: No, I agree.

Dr. DAVIDSON: I could just say this, Senator Grosart, that the Minister, when he presents the interim supply bill in the House—and I presume also whoever is handling it in the Senate—always has at his disposal, supplied by the Treasury Board staff, information which enables him to explain with reference to each request for an additional proportion the essential reason for that particular need. We do not furnish the Minister in the House, or the Senator who is carrying the bill through the Senate, with any elaborate explanation as to why we need one-twelfth for every vote, but if there is an unusual request for an additional proportion or proportions in respect of any one particular vote, and a member of the Senate asks the sponsor of the bill why that particular vote needs those extra proportions, then the answer is in the hands of the sponsor of the bill.

Senator GROSART: I understand from supplementary estimates that come before us that certain monies are paid during certain seasons of the year. You ask for, say, nine or ten-twelfths of the estimate, and you explain that in your supplementary Estimates.

Dr. DAVIDSON: In the interim supply bill?

Senator GROSART: Yes.

Dr. DAVIDSON: I will take one example, if I may. The committee is aware of the fact that the Government is embarking on a program of bilingual training in the public service, under which we are sending some members of the public service down to Quebec city with their families for a year, and also some with their families down to Toronto for a year. Expenses are being incurred in obtaining housing for those individuals. At the beginning of the year options were taken out on a number of properties. The vote to which those properties will be charged is a reasonably small vote. But, the options expire on varying dates in May and June, and we have to have, therefore, a disproportionately large amount of that particular vote so that we can complete the purchase of those particular residences by the end of June.

It will not do any good to say that we can have the normal three fractions for April, May and June because then we would be able to buy only one quarter of the houses.

That is the kind of thing that is available by way of explanation, Senator Grosart, in respect of each one of these requests for additional fractions.

The CHAIRMAN: I think if, as, and when we receive the interim supply bill this week, or next week, questions that are not satisfactorily answered in the House should be reserved for the next meeting of the Finance Committee. We can always pick them up at that time.

Have you anything further to say in the way of a general statement, Dr. Davidson?

Dr. DAVIDSON: I have a fair amount of additional material here, Mr. Chairman, but I think it would be more useful to the members of the committee if I endeavour to answer their questions.

Senator ISNOR: I should like to ask a question, arising out of earlier questions put by Senator Grosart, in regard to increases. What amount comes under the heading of increased salaries, and on what percentage basis would that be?

Dr. DAVIDSON: I have a tabulation here which I think I will give you. It covers three years—1965-66 compared to 1966-67, and compared to 1967-68.

I am sorry, Senator Isnor, but this covers the pay of the Civil Service and the R.C.M.P.; it does not include the pay for the armed forces, which is under the