

ing cities, and are charged to the cost of departmental and other reports furnished to various departments for which the printing is supplied.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): In this instance the funds do not go through the treasury; they are reserved for payment. That is, the votes go directly to the department.

Mr. CAHAN: Yes.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): This is somewhat different.

Mr. CAHAN: There is the king's printer advance account, made by the treasury, supervised by the accountants of the comptroller of the treasury, and audited by the auditor general. Those accounts are paid from day to day and from week to week.

Mr. RINFRET: That includes labour?

Mr. CAHAN: Yes, I am dealing with labour. No change has been made in the system.

Item agreed to.

Civil Service Commission—salaries, \$182,898; contingencies, \$25,000.

Mr. CAHAN: As hon. members know, this is the usual vote for the Civil Service Commission. It is a branch over which I have no control, and in connection with appointments to the commission I have never made a single request or suggestion. I have been as independent as the commission are. The vote for salaries has been reduced from \$196,020 to \$182,898. That is due to the fact that there have been some retirements and one or two appointments. I have particulars, but I do not think they would be of interest to hon. gentlemen.

Mr. VENIOT: Is it the intention of the government to effect a complete reorganization of that commission? For instance, may I refer to the chairman of the commission. I see by the press it is rumoured that he is considering retirement. Perhaps the minister could give the committee some information as to when he is due to retire.

Mr. CAHAN: I believe it is clearly understood that the Hon. W. J. Roche, has reached the age limit, and will retire at an early date. Although I cannot speak authoritatively, I have no doubt that upon his retirement the vacancy will be filled by a new appointment. I believe the view generally expressed last year before the committee on civil service was that it might be advisable to retain his services for some months, during reor-

ganization, in view of the fact that he had had such long experience in the details of that organization. His knowledge of these details was most useful to the new appointees and it is solely on these grounds that he is being retained for a short time.

Mr. VENIOT: Is it not true that the committee of parliament which investigated the workings of the Civil Service Commission recommended that the services of the chairman and his two associates be dispensed with forthwith?

Mr. CAHAN: I cannot speak definitely from memory, but I do not think that was the recommendation. As the hon. gentleman knows, Mr. Adrien Potvin, who was formerly one of the translators in the Senate, was appointed as a civil service commissioner. The fact that that commission would have the advantage of his intimate knowledge of translation methods was one of the reasons for the favourable consideration of placing the entire translating branch under the commission in a more definite way than has existed heretofore.

Mr. VENIOT: The Civil Service Commission would have nothing to do with translations, they would have to do only with the appointment of translators.

Mr. CAHAN: There would be the matter of organization.

Mr. VENIOT: If this gentleman has to do with translations I hope he will be more up to his work than he was when he acted as translator in the Senate.

Mr. CAHAN: I have never met the gentleman and, therefore, I cannot make a reply to my hon. friend.

Mr. BOUCHARD: The position of head examiner and translator was abolished on December 1. Does the minister intend to abolish this position permanently or is it to be just temporary? Will it become as permanent as the temporary cut in salaries?

Mr. CAHAN: As the minister representing the Civil Service Commission I can give no assurance as to whether or not vacancies will be filled. I have no voice, directly or indirectly, in connection with appointments or retirements.

Item agreed to.

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

Dominion Bureau of Statistics, \$351,000.

Mr. STEWART (Edmonton): There is a reduction of \$198,300 in this vote. Naturally