

*Study on Manpower*

in the motion had not been finalized. It has now been finalized. If we had consent we could file the information requested by the hon. member and clear the motion from the order paper.

**Mr. Dinsdale:** Mr. Speaker, I understand that the hon. gentleman is now offering to table the correspondence without any reservation, which was the intention of my original motion. If this is the case I shall be very happy to accept the order.

**Mr. Honey:** Mr. Speaker, there was the question of finalizing the correspondence and obtaining the consent of the province. This has now been done. I think we could make the information available to the house.

**Mr. Dinsdale:** I will accept the order, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** It could be agreed, Mr. Speaker, that order No. 63 be now passed.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** We might first have the motion and it could be agreed to in the normal procedure.

**PRAIRIE FARM REHABILITATION ACT**

## TRANSFER OF PART OF COST TO PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS

**Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris)** moved:

That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency praying that he will cause to be laid before this House a copy of all documents and correspondence exchanged between the Government of Canada and the Government of Manitoba with respect to transferring part of the cost of Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act projects from Ottawa to the provincial governments.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Is it the pleasure of the house to adopt the said motion?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

**MANPOWER**

## STUDY BY BELANGER, OUELLETTE AND ASSOCIATES

**Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North)** moved:

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of the study done for the Department of Manpower and Immigration by Belanger, Ouellette and Associates Inc., Montreal, Quebec.

He said: Mr. Speaker, the four motions which were moved on February 12, 1969 arose out of questions which I asked with reference to the studies done by these companies for the Department of Manpower and Immigration. Question No. 1042 asked about a study done by Belanger, Ouellette and Associates Inc., for which the department agreed to pay \$50,000. Question 1043 dealt with an arrangement made by the department with Operations Research Incorporated under which the department agreed to pay \$165,000 for the study. Question No. 1044 dealt with an agreement made by the department with Kates, Peat, Marwick and Company under which the department agreed to pay that company \$24,000. Question 1045 dealt with an agreement made with Operations Research Industries under which the department agreed to pay just over \$98,000 for some research.

These are just four small examples of a practice with which we are being faced more and more. I refer to the practice of government departments hiring outside consultants to do specific studies. I should like to make certain observations about these studies. This practice is continuing and accelerating at a time when the government, pleading poverty and the need for caution, has put a freeze or a semi-freeze on the hiring of public servants. The government has directed the public service not to increase its staff on the one hand and on the other hand has encouraged the public service to expand and increase expenditures to a very great extent through the hiring of private consultants.

In the summary of estimates for the year 1969-70 prepared by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Benson) or under his direction members can see that the amount of money allocated for professional services—I presume the hiring of consultants is included in this figure—is \$396 million, an increase from \$329 million last year, or an increase of \$67 million. This is a rather sharp increase at a time when supposedly the government wants the public service to be cautious.

Not only is this increase of 20 per cent very sharp but it also goes against every basic principle under which we are supposedly operating. When the government wants services or wants to purchase supplies or equipment the usual practice is for it to call for public tenders so that the people who are qualified to provide the equipment or anything else which the government wants can make a public tender indicating that they will do the job for such and such an amount.