

small poster on the importance of immunization and the distribution of some technical advice to physicians working in the child and maternal hygiene field, if, after consultation, that is considered desirable.

Mr. BLAIR: Will the minister explain the increase of \$7,000 in travelling expenses?

Mr. CLAXTON: That is to cover the travelling expenses of the members of the scientific advisory committees who advise the department in this field. They are distinguished doctors who serve without recompense, and we pay their travelling expenses for the one or two meetings that may be held in Ottawa each year.

Mr. KNOWLES: Under this item there is a question I should like to ask which would apply to one or two other items. Perhaps the one answer will suffice. I have in mind child and maternal hygiene, public health engineering, industrial hygiene and possibly some other items. Has there been an extension of the services rendered by the department in this connection? I notice that there is an increase in the amount asked for. That does not worry me unduly. We should watch closely all expenditures, but in this field of health what some of us are mainly interested in the extension of services to the Canadian people. In these three fields has there been any increase in the services rendered and, if so, what has been the nature of that increase?

Mr. MacNICOL: May I suggest that we take the items one at a time. I have been waiting here all evening to speak on one item. If you are going to take three items together I intend to ask my question on one of them.

Mr. KNOWLES: The same answer may cover the three items. If it does not, I can ask it again.

Mr. CLAXTON: There are no changes contemplated in the work carried on under this item. As I explained, provision is being made for an extension of work in much the same way as it has been carried on, and for more complete cooperation with the provinces. It is to provide for two meetings of the advisory council as well as for a wider distribution of the book "Canadian Mother and Child".

Item agreed to.

National health branch—
209. Public health engineering, \$138,443.

Mr. MERRITT: I notice that this item is almost three times what it was last year, and I am particularly interested in the amount of \$30,000 being provided for publicity and information. I have looked up the report of

[Mr. Claxton.]

the department for 1944-45 and I cannot find that any expenditures have been made before on publicity. I find that the duties of the department in that year were in connection with the supervision of public transport facilities, of federal public buildings; sanitary survey of shell-fish areas and the administration of the Public Works Health Act. Most of these duties were in reference to water supply for camps arising out of war purposes. Would the minister give a full explanation why this item is so much increased?

Mr. CLAXTON: The reason for the increase is that part of the functions of the division of public health engineering covered by this item have been met during the last four years out of the war appropriation. That refers particularly, for example, to an increase of \$22,000 in transportation and travelling expenses, which up to now were covered by the war appropriation. That has been transferred to the ordinary peace-time estimates. The work includes supervision with regard to certain continuing government activities at places like Deep River, Chalk River, Defence Industry Limited, Eldorado Mining and Refining Company, Pickering and so on. We have also more work this year in connection with the international joint commission with respect to the pollution of boundary waters. The engineers of the two countries are going into that question, particularly regarding the pollution of the great lakes. Then there is sanitation; cooperation with the Department of Veterans Affairs and its wide expansion of hospitals and other facilities, including health and occupational centres. The work of the division will also be increased by our assuming responsibility for the health of Indians and Eskimos, which was transferred on November 1, 1945, to this department. These changes are the reason for the increase.

With regard to the item of \$30,000 for publicity and information, the dominion council of health suggested that two films be prepared, one on pure milk and the other on safe water, the first at a cost of \$14,000 and the second at \$15,000. Then \$500 is provided for reprints of booklets on sanitation and \$500 for printing "Noise and Vibration Control", a booklet that aims at the elimination of noise in industry and commerce.

Mr. MERRITT: I think there must be some carryover between industrial hygiene and this item, because I understood that the prevention of noise was one of the chief functions of the industrial hygiene branch. I do not quite understand why a film on pure milk should come under public health engineering.