

Supply—Transport

rather wasteful and redundant to print details when the information given is no different from that contained under the item itself. I would ask the minister if it would be possible to alter the practice and, if not, what the purpose is in printing details.

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): The question of the form of the estimates is receiving study on the part of the committee on public accounts. The present form of the estimates, and this applies particularly to the main estimates, dates back about ten years. With respect to the point raised by the hon. member for Trinity, the estimates simply follow the form which has been in effect now for ten years. This matter is being studied in the public accounts committee and, as I have some responsibility in relation to the form in which estimates are presented to the house, I can assure the committee of my wish to co-operate fully with the public accounts committee.

Mr. Cardin: Can the minister inform the committee whether it is the practice of the government to make these obsolete stores available for sale through Crown Assets Corporation?

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): Yes, Mr. Chairman. Any that have any value, of course, are disposed of through Crown Assets Corporation. We are only too glad to realize something on them when they have any value.

Item agreed to.

Civil aviation branch—

746. Control of civil aviation including the administration of the Aeronautics Act and Regulations issued thereunder—further amount required, \$58,000.

Mr. Fisher: Mr. Chairman, we have heard a great deal lately, although I do not believe the matter has been the subject of discussion in the house, about the inability of the Department of Transport through this branch, I believe, to collect revenue from a number of international carriers to whom services are provided through various facilities under the control of the civil aviation branch. So far there has been no indication that this money is going to be collectible. I just wonder if the minister is in a position to give us any kind of report on this situation, and whether it is costing the department a considerable amount of money and effort, in terms of the service of its employees, to track down these people.

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): This subject, Mr. Chairman, at the present time is undergoing study by the international air transportation association. Beyond that I really cannot go at the present time. This item, of course, relates to the provision of funds for increased

[Mr. Hellyer.]

travelling expenses, hangar rentals at Malton airport and training for inspectors of civil aviation.

Item agreed to.

747. Construction or acquisition of buildings, works, land and equipment—to extend the purposes of vote 446 of the main estimates, 1960-61, to provide authority to charge to that vote the cost of lands purchased by means of loans provided for the acquisition of land required to control properties in the vicinity of main terminal airports in order to prevent the erection of hazards to flying and for future development of new and existing main terminal airports including facilities for relieving congestion thereat, \$1.

Mr. Fisher: Mr. Chairman, I should like to shout "author", here if I were permitted to do so. I should like to know who is the author of the item which reads:

To extend the purposes of vote 446 of the main estimates, 1960-61, to provide authority to charge to that vote the cost of lands purchased by means of loans provided for the acquisition of land required to control properties in the vicinity of main terminal airports in order to prevent the erection of hazards to flying and for future development of new and existing main terminal airports including facilities for relieving congestion thereat.

Perhaps the minister would give us an interpretation of that item.

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): I am told, Mr. Chairman, that the author of this composition is the solicitor to the treasury.

Mr. Fisher: What does it mean?

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): This item is one in which I am not asking for any additional money. It is one of these one dollar items. What is sought is the extension of the terms of the vote contained in the Appropriation Act so as to include new services that were not previously covered. The vote in the main estimates was No. 491, which authorized loans up to \$3 million to be used for the acquisition of lands to prevent the erection of hazards to flying in connection with future airport development. This is an annual item and has been in the estimates each year since the fiscal year 1954-55, when the major airport construction program was started. At the moment, land to a total value of more than \$1 million is on the asset side of the balance sheet. It is proposed to transfer to current account the cost of these lands which were initially purchased through the loans account and which it is not intended to resell. It is for this purpose that this legislative authority is required.

As I say, there is no money involved beyond the nominal one dollar. It is a matter of providing legislative authority for the transfer of these lands to the current account.

Item agreed to.