

REPORT TO THE HOUSE

THURSDAY, December 19, 1963.

The Standing Committee on External Affairs has the honour to present its

SECOND REPORT

On November 29, 1963, the House referred to your Committee for consideration Items numbered 1 to 155 inclusive, and items numbered L10 and L15, as listed in the Main Estimates, 1963-64, and items numbered 1a to 117a inclusive, and items numbered L10a and L13a, as listed in Supplementary Estimates (A), 1963-64.

Your Committee has considered the above estimates and has agreed to approve them and report them to the House and recommends their adoption.

Your Committee wishes to express its appreciation to the Honourable Paul Martin, Secretary of State for External Affairs for the informative review which he submitted to the Committee and for his co-operation in answering questions and supplying supplementary information to the Committee.

Your Committee is also grateful for the assistance rendered to it by Mr. H. O. Moran, Director General of the External Aid Office; Mr. Marcel Cadieux, Deputy Under-Secretary of State and Legal Adviser of the Department; and officers of the Department of External Affairs.

Your Committee feels that the Department of External Affairs should be commended for its diligent administration although operating under difficulties due to staff shortages and the problems involved in training new personnel, as well as retention of existing personnel.

Your Committee recommends that the Government consider the advisability of making available certain sums in future estimates to enable grants to be made to assist private organizations in projects in the field of external aid which are approved by the External Aid Office.

Your Committee was impressed by the unique nature of the work performed by the External Aid Office. An efficiently operated external aid program can make an important contribution to Canada's image abroad. Considering the urgent requirement which now exists for additional staff to operate Canada's program of development assistance, your Committee recommends that the Civil Service Commission and the Treasury Board give top priority to establishing the required positions in the External Aid Office to enable the immediate recruitment of necessary staff.

Your Committee further recommends that special temporary authority be extended to the Director General of External Aid Office to carry out immediate direct recruitment of personnel in the required number and ranks to fill positions as approved by the Treasury Board.

Your Committee also recommends that Canadians in foreign service be afforded the opportunity to exercise their franchise.

Your Committee wishes to record its appreciation to the Clerk of the Committee and to all those who contributed to the successful completion of its work.

A copy of the Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence (Issues Nos. 1 to 3) is appended.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN R. MATHESON,
Chairman.