

Mr. CRERAR: With the exception of two items, it is a revote to finish projects undertaken last year.

Mr. GREEN: Why is there not at least a portion of this work being carried on this year? At the moment, when we need gold so badly, it is of great importance to the country that our mines should be developed. It seems strange that the government should be wiping out this vote.

Mr. CRERAR: This vote first appeared in the estimates in 1936 and it has appeared each succeeding year. The only reason I can give is that the country is at war and that there is a need for conserving financial strength for war purposes.

Mr. GREEN: Gold is one of the things we need most.

Mr. CRERAR: My hon. friend and I are quite close on this matter, but it was the opinion of the government that this was one of the items which might be dropped during the war period. That decision may be wise or unwise, but it was felt warranted in view of the need of conserving our financial strength.

Mr. GREEN: How much money was spent last year?

Mr. CRERAR: With the exception of \$30,000, this is a revote. The \$30,000 is required for some projects in the northwest territories in a newly developed mining area, and for some in the Yukon, which is a federal responsibility.

Mr. GREEN: Do not the provincial governments put up a like amount?

Mr. CRERAR: No; the provincial governments put up one-third of the amount voted by the government. The expenditure on tourist roads was a fifty-fifty proposition.

Mr. GREEN: The development of mining roads has simply been dropped.

Mr. CRERAR: For the time being.

Mr. POULIOT: Will the Minister of Mines and Resources allow me to look at the correspondence between his department and Mr. Onesime Gagnon, minister of mines and fisheries in the previous Quebec government, in connection with the expenditure of moneys under this vote in the province of Quebec? My reason for asking this is that Mr. Gagnon took away all the correspondence from the Quebec files except one letter by the minister.

Mr. CRERAR: As far as I know there is no objection. This is public business.

Item agreed to.

#### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

95. Departmental administration, \$152,505.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: As I said before, there is always a good deal of difficulty in winding up the business of a session. One difficulty facing this parliament at this time is the fact that during the last couple of days the business of the other house has been completed and the members are rapidly departing for their homes. I hope sufficient of their number will remain to enable us to get our supply bill through the other house when it reaches there. To this end I feel we ought to decide that we will get through business in time to adjourn some time to-morrow morning. I was going to suggest that the house might be willing to sit on to-night until it had completed the estimates. I recall sessions of parliament some years ago when it was the rule, in winding up the business of a session, to sit through until the next day if the house was behind with its business. I know most hon. members are anxious to complete the work and I do not think an all-night sitting, should that be necessary, would deprive anyone of any of his privileges. If there are some subjects which hon. members would like to discuss particularly, they could be mentioned to the whips in order that they might be brought up in the early part of the evening. In that way they could be discussed without being hurried over unduly. Perhaps detailed discussion on some other matters might be deferred until we meet again.

Item stands.

At six o'clock the Speaker resumed the chair and the house took recess.

#### After Recess

The house resumed at eight o'clock.

#### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

##### SUSPENSION OF ELEVEN O'CLOCK RULE

Hon. T. A. CRERAR (Minister of Mines and Resources) moved:

That the house do not adjourn at eleven o'clock.

Mr. CASTLEDEN: Will there be any limitation upon the suspension of the hour of adjournment?

Mr. CRERAR: No. We will exercise a reasonable discretion about that.

Motion agreed to.