

*Supply—Mines and Technical Surveys*

as well as of the great reservoir of scientific knowledge available within the department.

I am happy to see that there has been no reduction in the amount of money required by the department. This is important. Last year some question arose as to whether or not some of the activities of the department would have to be curtailed as a result of an economy drive by the government. I think this would have been penny wise and pound foolish. There is no doubt but that the research carried on by the department translates itself into a greater economic activity in this country and, of course, the end result is a greater amount of money pouring into the government coffers.

This year the total amount sought by the minister for his department is \$54 million, as compared with \$46 million last year, an increase of about \$7½ million. I am of course rounding out the figures, but it must be pointed out to the committee that only a small part of this, a little better than \$3 million, represents actual increases in the services and costs to the department, the other part being moneys authorized by statutory grants, mainly cost aid, making up \$4½ million of the increase.

The minister referred to many of the activities being carried out by his department. I was glad to hear him refer to many of the programs launched with such conspicuous success by the previous administration from 1957 to 1962. Among other things they included accelerated implementation of an integrated program of geodetic, topographic and hydrographic surveys, and such projects as continental shelf research and the upper mantle project, which I think has been discontinued. The minister did not refer to it in his opening remarks, and I would like him to tell us a bit about the upper mantle project. It is of a scientific nature that may not yield immediate concrete results, but it did elicit a great amount of interest at the time it was launched. I feel it is a project that should not be discarded, and any information the minister can give us about it would be appreciated.

Under the previous administration the marine science branch was established, which gave a new impetus to hydrographic and oceanographic research. I believe the minister may have had a slight lapse of memory when he referred to the opening of the Bedford institute of oceanography which he stated he had attended. I know the minister visited the institute, but it was inaugurated under the previous regime.

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**Mr. Benidickson:** In fairness I think I should have said that it was the launching of the C.S.S. *Hudson* I attended, and this of course is an adjunct to the oceanographic institute.

**Mr. Martineau:** I thank the minister for the rectification he has just made. The *Hudson* is indeed an adjunct to the institute of oceanography and it has been described as a floating laboratory. I would point out that its construction took place during the years we were in power, but it was finally inaugurated into service by the minister. This was a most important event in the history of marine science in this country, and I do not believe it was given sufficient prominence either in this chamber or in the press generally, because the facilities afforded by this ship will significantly increase the capabilities of our oceanography and hydrographic services.

The pool of very specialized, competent officials and trained scientific personnel that the department controls should be used in a broader way, and I believe the government should give serious consideration to co-ordinating the many research services carried on by many different departments. Huge sums of money are being spent on research, but to my mind there is not sufficient co-ordination, and the maximum yield is therefore not being extracted from the research done. The minister would be well advised to investigate the possibility of amalgamating all these research sciences and services under his own department, perhaps to form a new department, be it the department of research, or some other suitable name. It will have to come to that if Canada is not to lose the race entirely in the field of industrial and scientific research.

I congratulate the minister on the work he is doing. Being in charge of the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys is a little different from being in charge of any other department, because the minister is continually dealing with people who possess immensely more technical knowledge than he himself generally has. This may place him under a certain handicap but I do not think it is a real handicap. The minister should draw upon that personnel and ask them to use their imaginative talents to the utmost, in order that the great expansion of the department which was launched in the years of our administration will be carried forward into a new era of real expansion and new projects of great significance. Therefore I urge the minister to consider the establishment of a select committee to consider plan-