

Supply—National Defence

As the leader of the opposition has already pointed out, the number of civilian employees in the Department of National Defence does not differ greatly from the number employed by the Post Office Department. The total amount spent for civil salaries and wages in the Post Office Department is \$52,860,461. The total amount spent for civil salaries and wages in the Department of National Defence is \$58,024,590. Those two figures are comparable in magnitude. In the case of the Post Office Department we get a break-down in the back of the book of estimates. My plea is that next year the estimates for the Department of National Defence be broken down in the same way with respect to details in the back of the book.

Mr. Claxton: I think we are moving towards this, Mr. Chairman. As hon. members will observe, it has been possible to increase the detail each year as post-war organization has developed. Certainly I gave instructions this year that we should do everything possible to give all the information we can and to conform completely with the recommendations of the Auditor General. That has been done with regard to all categories of defence expenditures, in the same way as the categories for the expenditures of all other government departments. They have the same class numbers and they are given under the same heads. If in addition it is desired that we should give details of each group of employees, we will certainly be more in a position to do that than ever before, because the development which has been planned has occurred, and I shall be glad to consider it and discuss with the officials of the department, treasury and the government, what can be done to meet the hon. member.

Mr. Harkness: I have suggested to the minister in each of the last three years the desirability of putting forward the estimates of this department in the same form as they are put forward in every department, and in the same form in which they were put forward in this department up until I think 1947. The discussion we have had for the last half hour or more indicates I think the fact that if the estimates of this department were put in the same form as other departments we would have saved a great deal of time here in the house. It would be unnecessary to ask a lot of these questions as to how many employees there are in the administrative branch, such as the item we are considering. The whole thing would be there in front of us. There would be no necessity to ask questions about it. We would save a great deal of time in the house and greatly facilitate the examination of the

estimates, and also the speed with which we might get through. I would certainly again recommend very strongly to the minister that when the estimates for next year are brought down the same form be used as was used in these estimates before, and the same form in which they are brought down by other departments.

The Deputy Chairman: Is the discussion on civil salaries and wages terminated?

Mr. Drew: No.

Mr. Pearkes: Can the minister tell us how many deputy ministers there are in this department and what are their salaries?

Mr. Claxton: There is only one deputy minister, and that is the deputy minister of national defence. His salary is \$15,000. There are two associate deputy ministers at \$10,000 each.

Mr. Pearkes: Is there any other officer under this heading who is drawing a salary of \$10,000? For instance, is there a controller of the inspection services? If so, what is his salary?

Mr. Claxton: His salary is \$8,500.

Mr. Pearkes: And the associate deputy ministers?

Mr. Claxton: I gave those.

Mr. Fulton: Has the minister given the assistant deputy minister?

Mr. Claxton: No, I have not.

Mr. Fulton: There are both assistants and associates, are there not?

Mr. Claxton: There is one assistant who gets \$8,000.

Mr. Pearkes: Having dealt with that, how many special advisers has the minister?

Mr. Claxton: None. I beg pardon, yes. Engineer Rear Admiral Stephens, on labour questions particularly. Engineer Rear Admiral Stephens is a retired naval officer and his salary is \$10,000. But he receives that in lieu of a pension of something like \$6,000 plus; therefore he works for about \$3,500.

Mr. Pearkes: Would General Worthington be considered a special adviser?

Mr. Claxton: No; he is now transferred to my colleague the Minister of National Health and Welfare, and his salary is similarly fixed at \$10,000, but he has not the advantage of both his pension and his salary, so he likewise is doing his present full time service for a supplementary income of something in the neighbourhood of \$3,500 or \$4,000.

Mr. Pearkes: Since this item covers civil defence, would not his salary be included in this item?