

(Continues reading brief):

*Appropriations*

In the Estimates for the present fiscal year the following items appear on page 12:—

63	Maintenance and improvement of grounds adjoining Government buildings, Ottawa, and improvements to the parkway system under the control of the Federal District Commission.....	\$133,500
(s)	Maintenance of parks, parkways and plant, Ottawa and vicinity, under control of the Federal District Commission.....	200,000
(s)	Corporation of the City of Ottawa.....	100,000

The first two of these appropriations are administered by the Federal District Commission, whose expenditures are audited by the Auditor General.

In respect to the vote of \$133,500, this is intended to provide for the maintenance of lawns, grounds, roadways, etc., adjoining public buildings which, prior to 1933-34, were carried out by this Department and charged to its appropriations. A statement is available showing the distribution of responsibilities between the Federal District Commission and the Department of Public Works. The first of these appropriations at time of transfer (1933-34) was \$55,000, but in the following fiscal year was \$117,400.

Mr. REID: Has the work which is being done by the Federal District Commission under this \$133,500 vote been increased, or is it the same as during the time when your Department had to do with it?

Mr. SOMERVILLE: The work must, of necessity, have been greatly increased by reason of more buildings, more lawns and suchlike.

Hon. Mr. LAMBERT: We can get that information from the Federal District Commission.

Mr. SOMERVILLE: (Continues reading brief):

In respect to the statutory appropriation of \$200,000, the following table may be of interest:—

Chapter 10, Statutes of 1899 authorized annual grant of \$60,000 for a period not exceeding 10 years from July 1, 1899.

Chapter 45, Statutes of 1910 increased this annual grant to \$100,000.

Chapter 62, Statutes of 1919 increased annual grant to \$150,000.

Chapter 55, Statutes of 1927 created the Federal District Commission and increased grant to \$250,000 for a period not exceeding 16 years from July 1, 1927.

Chapter 26, Statutes of 1928 amended the above Chapter and decreased grant to \$200,000, also authorized the Minister of Finance to provide the Commission an amount not to exceed \$3,000,000 for purchase of lands and the carrying out of different schemes of improvement, etc.

Chapter 27, Statutes of 1943 amends Chapter 26, Statutes of 1928, and authorizes an annual grant of \$200,000 for a period not to exceed 10 years from April 1, 1943.

I answered that in order to clear the matter of appropriations. It is really, as has been stated a matter for the Federal District Commission.

Mr. REID: What were the reasons for coming back in 1928, after having been granted \$200,000 in 1927. The grant in 1927 was made by statute for a period of sixteen years; yet in 1928 they came back, and there was an amendment in just one year. What is the reason for that?

Mr. SOMERVILLE: I do not know, sir. That is a Commission matter.

The CHAIRMAN (Hon. Mr. Copp): Probably the Commission could give us that information.