

the Financial Administration Act and to deal with it basically and with other things as well. That is as far as I will go now because we will have an opportunity later on, but as this paragraph is not repeated in the 1965 report of the Auditor General I would like to make these comments and hope the Committee will not desist this year until we have made some very definite and very strong recommendations.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Baldwin.

Mr. WINCH: Mr. Chairman, on doing my homework on the report of the Auditor General for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1964, I made a special note of the last paragraph of No. 45 which appears on page 17, in which it is said:

We have been advised by the Secretary of the Treasury Board that, in accordance with the recommendation of the Public Accounts Committee, a study is currently being made of financing problems which result when Parliament has been unable to make provision for the carrying on of governmental services between sessions.

This is now May of 1966 and I would like to ask a direct question. In May of 1966 have you been advised directly, in any way whatsoever, of any special study having been made and—

• (11:35 a.m.)

Mr. HENDERSON: I was advised by the Secretary of the Treasury Board that this was going to be done. I have not, as I say, been advised directly that it has been done and that a study has been completed but in the periodical talks which I had with the Secretary of the Treasury Board he has been good enough to tell me indirectly that the matter is still engaging their attention and he had nothing to add at the present time. This is, of course, confirmed in the statements made by the Minister of Finance when he wrote over a year ago to the Chairman of the committee in response to the committee's own recommendation.

Mr. WINCH: You have no report of the study which you were advised in 1963 was currently being undertaken?

Mr. HENDERSON: No, I have not heard any advice beyond that which I described to you.

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Winch and Mr. Baldwin, these are questions that you can ask when we have the officials before us in the Committee—and it might be possible to have them at the next meeting—or you might prefer to leave these questions until we have some other matters that would accumulate and ask them all at once.

Mr. BALDWIN: One other suggestion, Mr. Chairman, before we leave that. As it involves the question of interpretation of this particular Act—the Financial Administration Act—and as there have been different interpretations given, you and Mr. Henderson might give some consideration to having one of the legal advisers to the Auditor General present on the occasion of one of these discussions in case we would like to benefit from the opinion of the legal adviser on the different interpretations of that part of the Financial Administration Act