

War Appropriation Bill

Monthly Averages in Millions of Dollars

	August, 1939	December, 1940	Increase
Canadian deposits of chartered banks.....	2,532	2,718	186
Bank of Canada and chartered bank note circulation*..	207	347	140
	2,739	3,065	326

* Bank of Canada notes in the hands of the public plus total chartered bank note circulation. Bank holdings of chartered bank notes are, however, small and showed virtually no change over the period in question.

The December figures are the most recent available but the \$250 millions of notes which the dominion government has sold to the banks since that time would, other things being equal, increase Canadian deposits by the same amount.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): Last evening I asked the Minister of National Defence for Air, in the absence of his colleague the Minister of National Defence, for the figures in relation to the thirty-day military training plan. Could I be supplied with those figures?

Mr. RALSTON: There was a slight confusion with regard to what my hon. friend asked for. He mentioned the thirty-day training plan, and then he mentioned the National Resources Mobilization Act. What he asked first was the amount spent in the present fiscal year under the National Resources Mobilization Act in connection with the thirty-day training period. Then last night he broke it down somewhat and asked for further particulars. He asked for the amount allocated to the scheme out of the 1940 appropriation, to be spent (a) by the Department of National Defence, and (b) by War Services; also how far the activities of War Services go, and the expenditure in that respect before these men are handed over to National Defence for training.

I think the best I can do this afternoon on the information I have here is to lay on the table of the house and send to my hon. friend a copy of two statements. One is the expenditures paid or incurred under the National Resources Mobilization Act to December 31, 1940.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): By what department?

Mr. RALSTON: National Defence. The second is the cost of ordnance stores issued in connection with the National Resources Mobilization Act.

With regard to National War Services, I know what my hon. friend has said and I understand he has already received from National War Services some statements in regard to expenditure incurred. The point he made last night was that transportation did not seem to be included.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): They told me they had not the figures.

Mr. RALSTON: I have just spoken to my colleague the Minister of National War Services and I think he will be able to complete that if there are further figures to be given.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): Could the minister answer the question asked last night, whether the Ministry of National War Services pays the transportation up to the time these men are handed to the training centre, and the transportation back, or is the latter included in National Defence? We do not want it in twice.

Mr. RALSTON: I must say I had not noticed my hon. friend's question until I came in. I had the impression that National Defence pays transportation from the camps; I should like to verify that. The amount in the statement which my hon. friend will see is something like \$197,000 for transportation. That amount has been paid or incurred by National Defence, and when my hon. friend gets the particulars from National War Services the question will be answered.

The hon. member for Cumberland asked for the total expenditures or total payments made regarding the Debert military camp and airport.

Mr. BLACK (Cumberland): I said I should like the total expenditures and total commitments—I am quoted as saying "payments". What I asked for was the total expenditures and total commitments.

Mr. RALSTON: I thought my hon. friend might have that in mind. The situation is that it is difficult, and perhaps misleading, to attempt to give total commitments. Total expenditures, particularly for labour, which my hon. friend will recognize is a very large part of this, are returned pretty promptly; that is to say the labour is paid for by cheque from Halifax and the amount can be obtained promptly. With regard to materials there is some delay, as my hon. friend intimated last night. There are at least two reasons for that delay, and perhaps others. One is the fact that sometimes the receipt