

*Supply—Forestry*

of treasury board we are examining the department's organization in an effort to carry out the lessons which have been learned during the first two or three years of the new department's life.

There are two or three other votes to which reference might be made. Vote 25 relates to the maintenance and operations of the forest entomology and pathology branch. The proposed estimates of \$3.4 million will result in an over-all increase of \$41,000 in comparison with last year. Salaries and wages will require an additional \$32,000, while the overtime allotment is increased by \$9,000. The \$28,000 increase in professional and special services is mainly accounted for by a payment to the commonwealth institute of biological control. This item formerly was carried in the Department of Agriculture estimates and provides for the acquisition of collections of parasites, and predators which we need to combat forest pests, and for the receipt of research material from other countries. This is not just a contribution to the commonwealth institute. We get good value, as I am sure the hon. member for Qu'Appelle and others with knowledge of this subject will confirm.

During the relatively short time I have been minister, I have had inquiries seeking information on the department's policy in selecting locations for laboratories. I mention this because the Glassco report commented on the fact that our laboratories were removed from research and from academic institutions and suggested this was undesirable isolation. In principle, I expect that any man of science would agree with that observation. But it must be remembered that the federal Department of Forestry is a unique organization. Responsibility for managing the forests lies with the provinces. When we undertake research, this work has to tie in with the work being done by the departments of lands and forests of the various provinces. We have a research unit in Fredericton, another in Quebec, another in Vancouver, and another in Winnipeg. We also have units located in parts of Newfoundland and in other parts of the country, units which are not directly associated with any other institution. But the answer for that is that under our constitutional set-up and division of jurisdiction, it is of the utmost importance that our research officers work in close harmony and proximity with the forest services of the different provinces.

Speaking of British Columbia, it was my pleasure and privilege to lay the cornerstone of a large new research centre in Victoria in August of this year. The construction of that centre began in April of this year and we hope it will be in service within the next 12

[Mr. Nicholson.]

months. It is a building which represents an expenditure of roughly \$3 million. There was an amount of \$196,000 in the main estimates filed in February of this year, but we are making such rapid progress that we have had to transfer over \$600,000 from another part of the estimates to take care of the accelerated construction program in Victoria. This laboratory will provide accommodation for all branches of the department in British Columbia other than the forest products research laboratory which is located on the campus of the university.

I might say that in the construction of the research centre at Victoria every effort is being made to incorporate construction features which will make the maximum use of wood. I must say frankly that I was rather horrified when I looked at the first set of plans and found that the flagpole for a forestry research centre was going to be made of aluminum. That flagpole did not stay in the picture very long.

Two other votes, Nos. 35 and 40, deal with forest products research. There is a slight increase there of some \$30,000 which is accounted for by the salary increases which met with such enthusiastic applause in the short parliament of last year. There is another item in the supplementaries which is worth mentioning. It is an amount of \$1,000—

**The Chairman:** Order. I am sorry to interrupt the minister but his time has expired.

**Mr. Hamilton:** Mr. Chairman, I wonder whether the customary privilege could not be extended to the minister to allow him to complete his statement.

**The Chairman:** Is it agreed?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Nicholson:** I thank members of the committee. I think it is worthy of mention that a forest products research advisory committee has been set up for the first time in Canada's history. In my opinion it is to the credit of the lumber and plywood manufacturers that in the main they pay the expenses of their delegates and representatives on the committee. They attend two meetings a year and travel from all parts of Canada to do so, and the expenditure by the government for this purpose is only \$1,000.

There is a slight increase in the forest products research branch, but it is less than \$1,000 compared with last year.

One thing that has bothered me is our forest products research publications. The difficulty arises in getting publication in the two official languages. It is not for lack of trying. As I mentioned earlier, my deputy minister is a distinguished French Canadian