

it up to the light and see that there is nothing in it. This is just one of many I have seen. I have checked up and found thirty-two others who during the past year have received envelopes of this kind.

Mr. ILSLEY: With nothing in them?

Mr. FRASER: There is nothing in them. I will send this envelope over to the minister, and if he finds anything in it my eyesight will have to be examined.

Mr. KNOWLES: Put it on *Hansard*.

Mr. ILSLEY: There is nothing in this envelope.

Mr. FRASER: I am glad the minister did not find anything in it. Somebody suggested that there might be a ten-dollar bill in it, but no such luck.

I have a number of other cases of extravagance which I could bring before the house, but my time is limited. I might mention the Department of Veterans Affairs. The Minister of Veterans Affairs (Mr. Mackenzie) is always very much interested in things of this kind. I do not know whether it is his department or the Department of Public Works that is responsible, but I would ask the minister, and he can answer at some future date, just what it cost the government to tear down a part of the main building at the new Sunnybrook hospital in order to put in an elevator, which was forgotten when the main plans were drawn. That perhaps comes under public works. I would also ask why the window sash in that building were not of kiln-dried lumber instead of green window sash? Many of the windows have had to have strips put on them in order to keep them in place. I do not know whether that comes under veterans affairs or public works.

Every cabinet minister evidently did not check his estimates for this year. If he did, he should recheck them, because in looking over all the estimates I find that there are only four departments which show a decrease. All the others have increases.

The office of the chief electoral officer has a decrease, because we are not likely to have an election this year. The Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Bridges), who is not in his place at the moment, is a new cabinet minister and as yet he has not apparently that extravagant feeling which the other cabinet ministers have. Perhaps, as Minister of Fisheries he has had an opportunity to see so many suckers that he does not want to make suckers out of the taxpayers. Public archives estimates are down about \$3,000. Reconstruction and Supply on one ordinary estimate is down, but on another

item this department is up by over \$207,000,000. The other departments of the government that have increases in their estimates are:

	Increase
Health and Welfare	\$63,221,407
Public Works	14,710,826
Agriculture	2,213,744
Civil Service Commission	63,000
External Affairs	751,482
Finance	93,557,460
Justice	365,383
Mines and Resources	4,856,623
National Revenue	2,758,866

That is the department that collects our taxes, and it wants \$26,000,000 this year to run its own office.

	Increase
Privy Council office	\$ 223,725
Royal Canadian Mounted Police..	3,895,216

What is the reason for that increase for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police?

	Increase
Secretary of State.....	\$ 128,580

As the Secretary of State (Mr. Martin) knows, that is not petty cash but hard-earned taxpayers' money.

	Increase
Trade and Commerce	\$ 3,174,393
Transport	4,370,000
Veterans Affairs	13,039,949

Mr. MACKENZIE: Is the hon. member opposed to that increase for the Department of Veterans Affairs?

Mr. FRASER: It is the only department I would expect an increase in. Was the minister going to say something?

Mr. MACKENZIE: I was asking if the hon. member is opposed to that increase?

Mr. FRASER: No, I am not and if the minister would read my notes he would see that I have written down here, "This is the only department that I do not mind seeing an increase in."

There are only about three of the present cabinet ministers who really know anything at all about reducing taxes, because most of them have come in during the war and all they know is spending. They should take a few lessons in economy. In Canada we have only 12,000,000 people and we have \$3 billion budgets.

Australia, according to the *Australian News Summary* of June 27, 1946, is cutting her income tax down this year by £37,000,000 or \$120,290,000, and she is also cutting her indirect taxation to bring the total tax reductions down to something over £40,000,000, or \$130,000,000.

Many times during this session and last session members of the cabinet have been getting up and praising themselves for keep-