

then being studied. He added that should the government decide that an amendment to the Act is desirable, it will present its proposals to Parliament in the usual way.

Now in the 1964 note that you have before you in paragraph 45, we refer of course to the two warrants issued during April and May of the 1963-64 year, and we explain how they included three items which, in our view, did not meet the test of being urgently required for the public good, and these items are described in this note. In other words the practice I criticized in 1963 still obtained in 1964.

I would hope that this Committee might see fit to make a further recommendation to the government specifically recommending that appropriate amendments to Section 28 of the Financial Administration Act be drafted for the purposes of specifying precisely what type of expenditures may be made when Parliament has been unable to make provisions for the carrying on of governmental services between sessions.

I do not know, Mr. Chairman, the extent to which the Committee might want to be involved in working out or drafting up appropriate amendments. Perhaps you might like to invite the Secretary of the Treasury Board to come back to the Committee and to discuss this matter. You see, the only recommendation you made last time was that a study should be made, which has been a subject of my comment in the 1963 report and enlightens the situation I described to you. I am in your hands as to just where we should go from here. Now, Governor General's warrants, as you know, were operative during 1965 and it is too early for me to say the extent to which I may have comments about these in my 1966 report, but the fact of the matter is the situation is not changed and is continuing, and it does seem a proper thing to raise the question of whether you would be prepared to recommend that more specific steps be taken now towards actually amending Section 28.

Mr. BALDWIN: Mr. Chairman, I was just going to make that same suggestion. I think the Committee should, at the appropriate time, ask Dr. Davidson and possibly even, in due course, the Deputy Minister of Finance and, if necessary, the Minister of Finance, to appear before us so that we can cover the situation fully. Those of us who recall the discussions which took place during the passing of the estimates for last year will maybe remember that this was brought up, this was discussed. There is no doubt that when the Auditor General comes to make his report on the year 1965 he is bound to call attention to the fact that there were Governor General's warrants for that year. I do not think there is any doubt that there will be a repetition of the same situation which has been the subject of discussion and, to some degree, of complaint—I think of justifiable complaint—by this Committee.

So I would hope that you, Mr. Chairman, at the time when the steering committee is considering agenda for the future and the witnesses who will be called, will arrange very early for Dr. Davidson to come and, if necessary, I think we should possibly hear from both the Deputy Minister of Finance and the Minister of Finance. I would like to see this Committee, before it completes its deliberations, give very serious consideration to substantial amendments to