

Supply—Transport

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

Canal services—

606. To provide for expenses in connection with the St. Lawrence ship canal surveys and investigations (including St. Lawrence seaway investigations)—further amount required, \$200,000.

Mr. Green: On this item I was asking particulars of the payments made for professional and special surveys.

Mr. Chevrier: On this amount of \$200,000?

Mr. Green: Yes.

Mr. Chevrier: It is divided as follows: \$30,000 for aerial surveys in the international rapids section of the river; \$120,000 for field surveys and borings made in the Lachine section, the international section and the Cornwall section; and finally \$50,000 for a hydraulic model of a section of the St. Lawrence which is also in the international section, that is the Cardinal-Iroquois area, which was constructed at the request of the special projects branch of the Department of Transport by the national research council. It was found advisable to have a model in case it should become necessary in connection with the development of the seaway. That model has been used and has proven its value.

Mr. Green: To what persons or firms were payments made?

Mr. Chevrier: They were made to individuals. In the case of field surveys, in the Cornwall and Lachine sections they were made to employees of the department, drillers, field men. Speaking from memory, I think there are about forty or fifty people employed by the public projects branch in the Lachine section and in the international section.

Mr. Green: Casuals?

Mr. Chevrier: Some of it is casual and some of it is professional. I would think there are four or five engineers employed in that area. They have charge of the borings. They have taken borings in the Apple Hill area. They have taken them in the Montreal area, in Laprairie basin, at Cornwall and at Cardinal. It has been necessary to let out a number of small subcontracts in order to assist the drillers. They would be perhaps \$2,000 or \$3,000. That is included in this.

Mr. Green: What about the aerial survey?

Mr. Chevrier: The aerial survey—again I speak from memory—was made by Photographic Surveys for the purpose of making a map of the international section.

Mr. Green: That is a private firm?

Mr. Chevrier: Yes.

Item agreed to.

83276—218

614. To provide for reimbursement of the Department of Transport stores account for the value of stores which have become obsolete, unserviceable, lost or destroyed, \$12,275.

Mr. Green: This item has to do with the Department of Transport stores account. The minister will remember we had quite a discussion about his stores account three or four years ago. I wonder whether he could explain this item.

Mr. Chevrier: I remember the discussion that took place in the house quite well. Since then, however, the Financial Administration Act has been passed and that act provides that the minister of any department where stores become obsolete must, in order to dispose of them, get the approval of treasury board. In this item of \$12,275 there is \$9,535 representing obsolete stores. I might give two examples. In the case of the Trent canal the disposal of the tug *Fenelon* rendered obsolete certain spare parts. On the Cornwall and Lachine canals we have moved from manually operated gates to electrically operated gates, and it has become necessary to dispose of certain canal equipment and spare parts that are no longer of use.

At Gander—I move now to air services—it has been found necessary to dispose of certain English type motorcycles. Spare parts are practically impossible to obtain. There is also a large quantity of carbon paper that has deteriorated to such a state that it can no longer be used. Stocks of various departmental forms have become obsolete through revisions of those forms. Then there is also a list of hardware goods that have become obsolete; also oils, greases and things of that kind that have become stale and can no longer be used because they have been there for so long. Under section 60 of the Financial Administration Act it has become necessary for the minister to report these things to treasury board, and I understand that treasury board has approved of this.

Item agreed to.

Civil aviation division—

616. Control of civil aviation, including the administration of the Aeronautics Act and regulations issued thereunder—further amount required, \$46,000.

Mr. Green: This item deals with control of civil aviation, including administration of the Aeronautics Act and regulations issued thereunder. Apparently there has been some difficulty between Canada and Australia concerning the right of Canadian Pacific Air Lines to have a weekly service between the two countries. I had a press dispatch which seems to have become mislaid, but it was dated earlier this month and indicated that it was unlikely that an agreement could be