

Supply—External Affairs

figure I have quoted, less than 2 per cent. It is true, as my hon. friend points out, that the strict security projects are on a cost-plus basis, and they are on a cost-plus basis for the simple reason that they are strict security projects. They are not included in the figures I have given.

Mr. Harkness: I think the minister is giving the percentage of the number of contracts, but he is not giving the amount of dollars involved. The percentage of dollars involved in the cost-plus contracts is very much greater.

Mr. Dickey: I gave that. Excluding the security projects, it is under 8 per cent of the total program.

Mr. Harkness: Now we have gone from 2 per cent to 8 per cent.

Mr. McIlraith: No, you have not.

Mr. Higgins: Reverting to the question I asked the parliamentary assistant a moment ago, the figures I am trying to get are those relating to plants established for defence projects, apart from defence installations. Have you built factories?

Mr. Dickey: There are projects of construction under the capital assistance program in various provinces to meet production requirements but nothing, I think, under this vote.

Mr. Higgins: Nothing under this item?

Mr. Dickey: No.

Mr. Green: A few days ago figures were produced by Defence Construction Limited showing the amount of defence construction contracts awarded from November 22, 1950.

Mr. Dickey: Was that in the committee on defence expenditure?

Mr. Green: I do not know. I have a figure here—

The Chairman: So that the hon. member may understand the situation, may I point out that if these figures were produced before the committee on defence expenditure, unless they were reported in the house they cannot be used.

Mr. Green: I believe that the figures have been published.

Mr. Harkness: They appeared in the press.

Mr. Dickey: If I may do so, I would suggest that the president of Defence Construction Limited is appearing at the present time before the defence expenditure committee and that I am sure any question that might be asked relating to evidence before that committee could best be dealt with there.

Mr. Green: I do not happen to be on that committee, and these figures were published in the daily press. All that I wanted to ask the parliamentary assistant is this. The figures cover the period from November 22, 1950, to December 31, 1952, and they show a total of \$401,160,000. Then there is a breakdown into the expenditures in each province. The expenditures in British Columbia are about 5 per cent of that figure. They are given as \$20,922,000. Can the parliamentary assistant explain why that figure is so low? It seems to be greatly out of line with the requirements in a coastal province where there are extensive defence installations.

Mr. Dickey: That question was asked in the defence expenditure committee the other day, and the best thing I can do is to repeat the answer that was given, namely that construction of defence projects is carried out on instructions from the Department of National Defence. The Department of National Defence decides where and when they want construction done, and they make those decisions on the grounds of military necessity.

Mr. Gillis: Can the parliamentary assistant give us a breakdown province by province? It appears that the hon. member for Vancouver-Quadra has a document that gives him a breakdown as to the amount of money that has been spent in each province.

Mr. Dickey: The document which the hon. member for Vancouver-Quadra has in his hand was a return that was tabled in the defence expenditure committee. The hon. member can certainly get a copy. I shall be delighted to send him a copy.

Mr. Gillis: Thank you.

Item agreed to.

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Terminable services—

565. Contribution to the United Nations refugee emergency fund, \$100,000.

Mr. Graydon: I desire to make one inquiry only in connection with item 565. I may say that item 566 was dealt with yesterday in the external affairs committee and I think the explanation of that will be found there. Just what is this additional contribution to the United Nations refugee emergency fund?

Mr. Abbott: As the committee may recall, the United Nations refugee emergency fund was established under authority of a resolution passed at the sixth session of the United Nations general assembly. The high commissioner for refugees was appointed by the United Nations to provide international pro-