

itself has no direct control over the total sums which the national research council has at its command.

I believe the council should report—and the minister has advanced no reason why it should not—within a reasonable time after its fiscal year ends, which time I suggest might be about three months.

Mr. HOWE: I must say it is extraordinary to hear of my hon. friend worrying because the earnings of the national research council are not subject to taxation. It is a strange situation. I should be very happy if the national research council could earn enough to carry on its activities; and I would not be particularly worried about the size of the activities. Recently I read an article about the United States research, and I found that the government of the United States spent in the four years they were at war over \$10 billion on research. That is more than half the total cost of the war to Canada. They believed that that money spent on research during the war was perhaps the most effective of any of the war expenditures. I certainly hope that Canada will spend very much larger sums on research in future than have been spent in the past. Therefore I am not worried that the national research council will earn enough money to be subject to tax or earn enough money to be free of appropriations by parliament. Unless that happens my hon. friend need not worry about the ability of parliament to extract all the information that it cares to ask for about the operation.

So far as the annual report of the council is concerned I am sure that the council make their annual report as rapidly as they can. The research council as a whole meets only four times a year. Whether the report can be compiled and approved by the council within three months after the end of the fiscal year I am not sure, but I have had no complaint to date that the report of the national research council is not filed as promptly as the report of any other branch of government which makes a report to parliament.

Mr. GREEN: Is the report for 1945-46 out yet?

Mr. HOWE: I could not say. The fiscal year closed just two months ago.

Mr. NICHOLSON: This afternoon I expressed concern about the salaries being paid to the scientific workers in the national research council, particularly those who have been there for a great many years. Has the minister available the salaries paid? I mentioned that in the Beatty report of 1930, sixteen years ago, it was suggested that scientific

workers should start in at \$2,100. I understand that some start in at a salary a great deal less than that. I understand that \$1,680 is the salary being paid some workers with a Ph.D. degree. Has the minister available, or can he obtain the information while we are in the committee stage, the number of Ph.D.'s receiving less than \$2,000, and also could he give us the average salary that is being paid to scientific workers in the different groups? The Beatty report broke them down into different classifications. Could the minister give us some indication as to whether the recommendations of the Beatty report have been implemented, or how many are receiving less than these suggested classifications?

Mr. HOWE: I have no information. I suggest that there is nothing in the bill before the committee referring to the salaries of scientific workers. My hon. friend is easily shocked. I can remember distinctly the first work I had after graduating from college, with what I considered a superior degree. I remember receiving \$40 a month, and worked for that for some months. It does not shock me that these young men out of university, even with a Ph.D., are working for \$1,800 a year.

Mr. FLEMING: I wish to say a word respecting the point raised by the hon. member for Rosedale, and it relates to the principle involved. That principle, so far as we Progressive Conservatives are concerned, is one of parliamentary control. We have expressed the view that all these enterprises which the government believes ought to be carried on under crown company control should first be submitted to parliament.

But then as an alternative the minister says, "Give us certain blanket powers, and parliament will have an opportunity to review reports at the conclusion of the year." The discussion we have had to-night bears directly upon the minister's contention that parliament has full opportunity of reviewing the administration of those crown companies. The point made by the hon. member for Rosedale is a substantial one, because the provision in the Research Council Act which refers to reports to parliament is, if I may say so, loose and inadequate. It does not contain a time limit.

In the short space of time I have been in parliament, I believe in every case where any body has been given power a stipulation has been included in the statute that a report must be submitted to parliament within a fixed period. If hon. members will refer to section 13 of the Research Council Act they will see that, first of all, there is a provision that the president shall report annually to the