

that a study be made of Governor General's special warrants (see Appendix 1, item 8).

The two warrants issued during the year under review each included three items which did not meet the test of being "urgently required for the public good". These are:

- (1) An item "to supplement other votes, subject to the approval of the Treasury Board, for the payment of salaries, wages and other payroll charges". Obviously the payment of the amounts was not urgently required when the special warrants were issued and the Governor in Council in effect delegated to the Treasury Board his authority under section 28 of the Financial Administration Act although there is no provision for such delegation.
- (2) An item "miscellaneous minor or unforeseen expenses, subject to the approval of the Treasury Board, and awards under the Public Servants Inventions Act". As in (1) above, these items were not urgently required when the special warrants were issued and represented an unauthorized delegation of authority to the Treasury Board.
- (3) Amounts totalling \$123,900 to cover the administrative expenses of the National Gallery of Canada without taking into consideration approximately \$53,000 available for this purpose in the Gallery's special operating account.

We have been advised by the Secretary of the Treasury Board that, in accordance with the recommendation of the Public Accounts Committee, a study is currently being made of the financing problems which result when Parliament has been unable to make provision for the carrying on of governmental services between sessions.

A special warrant issued in the 1962-63 fiscal year—that is the year previous to this one—had included a number of items which did not meet the test of being—and I am quoting from the Act—"urgently required for the public good" as required by Section 28 of the Financial Administration Act. After considering these cases—its examination of the 1963 report—this Committee, in its fourth report, 1964, recommended that a study be made of Governor General's special warrants. Now this recommendation, you may recall, was the subject of item 8 in our 1966 follow-up report. In commenting on this to you in that report I stated that I had not been informed of any study being made along the lines recommended by the Committee, but I did quote from a letter addressed by the Minister of Finance on March 4, 1965, to the Chairman of the Committee in which he stated that in the course of discussion on this subject in the public accounts Committee the Secretary of the Treasury Board undertook to consider the desirability of enlarging on the special Governor General's warrant provisions in the Financial Administration Act and in particular Section 28, in order to clarify its application to situations arising when Parliament is dissolved without having appropriated the necessary expenses of the public service. The Minister went on to say in his letter that suggestions have been discussed for changes in this section of the Financial Administration Act and that these were