

SUPPLY

The house in committee of supply, Mr. Macdonald (Brantford City) in the chair.

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE

200. Departmental administration, \$422,774.

Hon. BROOKE CLAXTON (Minister of National Health and Welfare): When the house was last in committee of supply on the estimates of this department I promised to give some figures in connection with the item of \$50,000 provided for the general administration of the department for publicity and information. When I referred to this matter last Friday evening I said that the total expenses up to March 31, 1946, were \$24,959.68. A breakdown of these expenditures is as follows: Addressograph equipment and embossing of addressograph plates, \$5,459.46; publication of "Canada's Health and Welfare", six editions, \$8,871.01. This bulletin is published in both French and English. Twenty thousand copies in French are distributed, and fifty thousand copies in English. The aim of this publication is to keep Canadians engaged or interested in public health work informed concerning developments in national and provincial health and welfare services. The next item is books and periodicals, \$657.65; Canadian (Press) clipping service, \$1,427.44; film (strip) "Science of Living", \$1,399.35; Immunization film clip, \$1,411.88. For a biological and medical film library, prints of one hundred films on technical subjects, \$4,741.24. For a book on care of the feet, \$300. This is the cost of the technical illustrations for a booklet which has not been issued as yet, but work on which has been commenced. For Malaria pamphlet and poster, \$225.20. For photos, display panels, picture layouts, \$346.22. For "British Health", a picture display brought over here from the United Kingdom, \$120.25. This makes the total of \$24,959.68 to which I referred a week ago.

At that time I was also asked for a breakdown as to how the department proposed to spend the vote of \$50,000 now sought under this item for publicity and information. That information is as follows:

Health and welfare bulletin . . . . .	\$23,000
Exhibits for rural fairs, six sets at \$250 each . . . . .	1,500
Photographic services, involving distribution of picture layouts, maps, etc., to newspapers and periodicals . . . . .	2,000
Newspaper clipping service, within the department . . . . .	1,500
Window displays and similar exhibits . . . . .	3,000
Film circuits . . . . .	3,000
Miscellaneous art work and photography . . . . .	500

That makes a total of \$34,500. The unallocated balance is \$15,500. Generally speaking, this vote is sought for educational and information services which are not covered in any specific votes for information and education, under either the health or welfare branches of the department. This vote is to be used for services which will generally benefit the public as a whole, related to the work of the department as a whole.

Then I was asked for details of expenditures made in connection with publicity and information to persons outside the department. Under item 213, nutrition service, expenses of \$30, \$65 and \$50 were incurred to three individuals whom I could name if that is required. Under item 212, the civil service health division, an expense of \$210 was incurred for writing and research. Those are the only expenditures coming within that question.

I should refer briefly to some of the remarks of the hon. member for Vancouver-Burrard last Friday night. In his speech he referred to a number of different items, the first of which, in the sequence in which they appear in the report, was an item of \$10,000 for publicity in connection with the Indian medical service. This matter is dealt with at page 2082 of *Hansard*. As the hon. member said, this can be dealt with more adequately at a later time. But I would say now that his observations about this item, as all his observations on publicity, information and education, seem to have taken the word "publicity" in these estimates as used in some commercial sense. The expenditures made in the past and the votes now sought are intended for education and information in the broadest sense; and I should think everyone here would agree that the best possible thing we can do for the Indians and Eskimos of Canada is to help them to help themselves. That, very largely, is an educational and informational problem. The item of \$10,000 sought for this purpose will be explained either when we reach it, or now, as preferred. The expenses planned under this item are definitely designed to put before the Indians and Eskimos of our country information respecting health, hygiene and nutrition which will enable them better to look after themselves.

The next matter raised by the hon. member for Vancouver-Burrard related to, to use his words:

. . . another booklet called the "Master Menu Pattern," which, if you please, is a bright little document telling the people of Canada what food to take with them when they go on picnics in the summer and how best to make use of that food.