

to members either in its present form or in such revised form as it may be presented to the provincial governments?

Mr. ILSLEY: I do not think so.

475. Administration, National Housing Act and home improvement loans—further amount required, \$100,000.

Mr. GRAYDON: There is a statutory item in connection with the national battlefields commission. Perhaps I should have asked this question when another minister was on his estimates, but I was wondering if the \$75,000 covers any of the arrangements made at present in connection with battlefields either of the present war or of the last one.

Mr. ILSLEY: That has reference to Quebec, not even the last war.

Item agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

115. General administration—estimates of the Clerk, \$448,660.

Mr. GRAYDON: On this item I wish to raise a question that I have raised before, of which I gave notice to His Honour the Speaker. On a previous occasion I brought to the attention of His Honour the Speaker the question of the uniforms of the protective staff. I think that has been rectified to some extent, although if one judges by the practical and physical results one still sees the same uniforms that one saw at the beginning. I realize that these things cannot be done overnight, but I believe there is justifiable criticism, if I may say so, of the length of time that has been taken to outfit these men in summer uniforms. Had we an up-to-date policy and one that is dealt with expeditiously these men should have their summer uniforms at least before the snow starts to fall around the building outside. I do not think it is good enough to say that the uniforms have been ordered; that there is difficulty with material, and so on, because if the proper prescience had been exercised in connection with it, surely there would have been no doubt that these uniforms would have been available by last April or May. Let us not forget that this is August and the men have now passed through the hottest period of the summer in their winter uniforms. However, I wish to say we appreciate the fact that they have been ordered. We are always thankful for small mercies. If the fact that the uniforms have been ordered does not cool off the protective staff it at least cools off the argument that one would normally wish to raise to a higher temperature than the temperature of the chamber at the moment.

100—408½

But that is not what I rose to say. I rose to make some reference to the question of the protective service. I do not wish to make any reflections or any comparisons that may be odious, a course which seems to be very popular in some parts of the country although I do not know how far it extends. I have never seen much unpopularity in this chamber in regard to it, but in certain sections it does not seem to be very healthy or popular to say much about the other place. But whatever may be said with respect to that, I am going to venture a little into the realm of comparison to-night and indicate that I think the protective staff of the House of Commons and certain services of the House of Commons do not receive equal treatment with that of the Senate. Putting it most charitably, if I may say so, I think the working period in the House of Commons and in its precincts is at least as heavy, as burdensome and as important as that of the other chamber. I do not think anyone, no matter how careful he may be of the amenities, will be able to criticize my rather charitable and, I think, quite kindly references to a subject in connection with which other comparisons might have been used quite properly and appropriately. I will go no farther than that at the moment.

There are some points, however, in which my information would lead me to believe this house does not fare so well as the other place. I am not suggesting that those who are employed there are deserving of less than they are receiving, but I merely make this comparison to indicate that if the employees of another place are worth the money they are receiving, then the staff of this house ought to be paid at least equally well. I am not going farther than that, because, after all, it would not be quite fair to do so and I do not want to be facetious in my references to the other house. I should like some information, however, as to why the law clerk of the Senate, for instance, receives more than the law clerk of the House of Commons. That is only one illustration which comes to my notice in connection with the payments that are made.

Getting down to the protective staff, the information I have is that in the Senate there are six constables, while in the House of Commons there are twenty-four. The salary for similar work in the Senate runs from \$1,740 a year to \$1,920, and in the House of Commons from \$1,460 to \$1,680. The hours per day per constable in the Senate are six, and in the House of Commons eight. The patrols in sections of the centre block per day are one by the Senate and six by the