

experiment in this laboratory established the fact that thermally cracked gasoline could be safely used in training aircraft, thus increasing the aviation gasoline supply. Flight tests were made, specifications for such fuel were drawn up, and refiners were provided with information as to the limits within which cracking could be done. Aircraft engines are tested in an engine laboratory where studies on cold starting of engines and of the cooling of armoured fighting vehicles are also in progress.

The council possesses the only building in Canada equipped for testing aircraft structures such as wings and tail surfaces. This equipment must be used in the development of new aircraft and in the study of modifications to existing structures. Considerable work in design and construction of moulded plywood aircraft has been undertaken in order to reduce the drain on duralumin and steel and to draw upon Canada's wood working facilities. For these purposes the structures laboratory serves as a pilot plant where interested firms may follow the development of new designs.

The mechanical engineering division works in close cooperation with the test and development establishment of the R.C.A.F., which operates what is really a full-scale experimental flying station. Through this cooperation laboratory results and flying operations are well coordinated.

On the physical and engineering side of its work, the council is closely associated with the Canadian engineering standards association, which is the national approvals body for engineering practice. The main committee of the C.E.S.A. is the associate committee on engineering standards of the council. The C.E.S.A. has close liaison with similar bodies in the United Kingdom and the United States, and this makes for close coordination of standardization work.

The foregoing outline contains merely a few highlights of the work, more details of which will be found in the annual report of the national research council. Since the national research council is the official research establishment of the navy, army and air force, many of the projects undertaken by the council are secret and cannot be made public at present. It is hoped that the general picture of the place of the council in the war effort can be visualized from the facts given.

Item agreed to.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Civil service commission—

Supply of personnel for war services, \$576,500.

Mr. KNOWLES: Will the minister indicate the classes of employees who are included in this vote?

Hon. N. A. McLARTY (Secretary of State): They are employees of departments who have been taken on in connection with war work.

Mr. KNOWLES: Temporarily?

Mr. McLARTY: All temporarily. I will give a break-down of the figures: Salaries, \$399,000; cost of living bonus, \$63,000; print-

[Mr. J. A. MacKinnon.]

ing and stationery, \$20,000; examinations, \$15,000; railway fares, \$15,000; travelling expenses, \$41,000; miscellaneous, \$22,000.

Item agreed to.

Progress reported.

At eleven o'clock the house adjourned, without question put, pursuant to standing order.

Tuesday, May 30, 1944

The house met at three o'clock.

THE ROYAL ASSENT

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the house that I have received the following communication:

Government House,

Ottawa, May 30, 1944.

Sir:—I have the honour to inform you that the Hon. Thibaudeau Rinfret, Chief Justice of Canada, acting as deputy of His Excellency the Governor General, will proceed to the Senate chamber on Thursday, June 1, at 5.50 p.m., for the purpose of giving the royal assent to certain bills.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

F. L. C. Pereira,
Assistant Secretary to the
Governor General.

The Honourable
The Speaker of the House of Commons,
Ottawa.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

BANKING AND COMMERCE

Third report of standing committee on banking and commerce.—Mr. Macdonald (Brantford City—for Mr. Moore).

MISCELLANEOUS PRIVATE BILLS—CONCURRENCE IN FIRST REPORT

Mr. L. P. PICARD (Bellechasse) presented the first and second reports of standing committee on miscellaneous private bills, and moved that the first report be concurred in.

Hon. R. B. HANSON (York-Sunbury): I should like to know the necessity for this motion. If it is concurred in, the quorum of this committee will consist of a very small fraction of the membership. It seems to me that this committee has important functions to perform, and that therefore the quorum should be substantial.

Mr. PICARD: The committee is composed of fifty members. There are many select committees sitting every day, and many of the