

Supply—R.C.M.P.

683. Quebec, \$1.

Mr. Pickersgill: This is another dollar item.

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): The added enterprise here is wharf reconstruction and enlargement at Riviere au Tonnerre and the cost is \$82,442. The money is available. Again it is a matter of enlarging the scope of the original authorization.

Mr. Pickersgill: This item reads, "to complete payments". Was this project not in the original estimates?

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): There is an extra payment for the construction and enlargement of the wharf under a contract amounting to some \$421,000. The contract was terminated on March 28, 1958, with a final payment of \$362,000 in round figures. The contractor submitted a claim for losses incurred in the performance of the work involved, specifically in connection with maintaining facilities for continued traffic during the carrying on of the work. Additional expenses were incurred in the construction of temporary trestles and this delayed the entire project. Since the traffic problem was not mentioned in the specifications, as perhaps it should have been, treasury board took the view that the contractor was entitled to compensation and the extra payment should be sufficient to cover the cost of construction of trestles and the increases in equipment, labour and overhead expenses due to the prolongation of the contract. It is under that circumstance that this payment arises.

Item agreed to.

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

684. Land, air and training divisions—construction or acquisition of buildings, works, land and equipment—further amount required, \$164,000.

(Translation):

Mr. Roberge: Mr. Chairman, I should like the Minister of Finance to explain this \$164,000 increase of the item for the construction or acquisition of property and equipment.

(Text):

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): The amount involved here, \$164,000, represents an advance from the consolidated revenue fund to be charged to the fire losses replacement account for the purchase of an Otter aircraft and accessories to replace a Beaver aircraft and equipment destroyed in a fire on November 4, 1959, at municipal hangar No. 1 at Regina.

Mr. Van Horne: Mr. Chairman, I am wondering what is meant by "training division" with regard to the R.C.M.P. Does that mean an increase in the actual cost of training members of the mounted police?

[Mr. Fleming (Eglinton).]

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): No, this has nothing to do with training policemen. It has to do entirely with the replacement of an aircraft that was destroyed in a fire.

Mr. Van Horne: Why does it mention the training division?

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): Because that is the broad heading under which this matter is listed in the estimates. Reference to the main estimates will, I think, make that quite clear to the hon. member.

Item agreed to.

685. Reimbursement of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police revolving fund for the value of cloth which has become obsolete, unserviceable, lost or destroyed, \$878.

Mr. Herridge: This item is one for reimbursement of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police revolving fund for the value of cloth which has become obsolete, unserviceable, lost or destroyed. Can the minister explain how cloth under the control of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police can become lost?

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): It is the law that items of this kind cannot be written off against this particular revolving fund account without authorization, and that is the purpose of this item. This is cloth that was acquired a long time ago. It consists of 258½ yards of serge. It was purchased originally for sea dress for the marine division personnel. It was brown when it was purchased from the Department of National Defence. The hon. member will understand that this happened a long time ago. Then it was dyed blue and then it was found—

Mr. Hellyer: Was that after the government changed?

Mr. Robichaud: Was it never dyed red?

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): It was dyed blue for conversion to the battledress type of uniform worn by the special constables who are crew members on board R.C.M.P. marine ships. That type of uniform is now obsolete since special constables are issued a restricted kit similar to that worn by regular members of the marine division. Consequently this cloth is now obsolete and surplus to requirements, but we have to have authorization in this form in order that it may be written off against the revolving fund.

Mr. Pickersgill: What happened to the cloth?

Mr. Herridge: Can the minister explain how it was lost when it was under the control of the R.C.M.P.?

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): The uniform that it was dyed and adapted for was discontinued.