

Mr. MARTIN: No; there is no change in that.

Mr. LENNARD: While I appreciate the fact that some statutes may demand that copies of divorce evidence be printed, I cannot see any use in having all these copies of evidence, simply to be thrown in our waste-paper baskets. It is a waste of paper and of valuable time in the printing office.

Mr. MARTIN: The hon. member realizes that assignments of that kind are not within the jurisdiction of the king's printer. He carries out the orders of the committee.

Mr. KNOWLES: There is considerable opinion in the country to the effect that a wider reading of *Hansard* might be a good idea. Some members are not so sure of that; but there are those who feel it would be, and I am one of them. Has consideration been given to the possibility of reducing the subscription price from \$3 to a lesser figure? This involves consideration of what it is costing for the extra copies which have to be printed to meet the subscription lists. Has this matter been considered?

Mr. MARTIN: It has been. One is faced with the same problem I mentioned a minute ago. We could give these things free, thereby adding to the cost of operation. However, the matter is now under serious consideration, not only with regard to *Hansard*, but in an effort to try to set up perhaps a more effective agency by which government publications generally might receive wider distribution.

Mr. KNOWLES: Can the Secretary of State say how many copies of *Hansard* are printed, and then break that number down into the number circulated and the number subscribed for at the \$3 rate?

Mr. MARTIN: I shall be glad to give details later on to my hon. friend, since I have nothing here except that it is around 9,000.

Item agreed to.

Demobilization and reconversion—Civil service commission—

484. Supply of personnel for demobilization and reconversion services, \$658,508.

Mr. MACDONNELL (Muskoka-Ontario): What is this for?

Mr. MARTIN: This is to cover the expenses of civil service operations in connection with demobilization. The hon. member will note that the details are to be found on page 261 of the main estimates.

Mr. MACDONNELL (Muskoka-Ontario): It is rather odd that the same figure of

\$658,508 is arrived at, and the reason would seem to be that they have adjusted the amount for sundries. What kind of way is that to make up an item?

Mr. MARTIN: That is the total figure.

Mr. MACDONNELL (Muskoka-Ontario): It is arrived at by just putting in an amount for sundries. I do not want to be meticulous about the matter, but it looks rather silly. You have \$658,508, which does not mean a thing because it is only arrived at by putting in a sundries figure which gives you that amount. I am not making heavy weather about it, but it is not a sensible way to make up an estimate.

Mr. MARTIN: If I could bring down the ledger which would be a much larger book than I have, I could give the hon. member the items for telephones, telegrams, travelling expenses and so on.

Item agreed to.

856. Canada Temperance Act, further amount required, \$1,000.

Mr. LENNARD: What is this for?

Mr. MARTIN: It is the cost of enforcing the act in the county of Beauce.

Mr. MACDONNELL (Muskoka-Ontario): Do you not have to enforce it in other counties?

Mr. MARTIN: No; only the one.

Item agreed to.

Demobilization and Reconversion—Privy Council Office—

591. Canadian information service, \$640,700.

Mr. BRACKEN: This is an item which did not appear in the estimates prior to the war. It has grown out of a service created during the war, the war information board. The amount asked for is \$640,700. The item last year was for \$796,000. The service has been modified from war days and is now known as the Canadian information service. The government is planning to continue in peacetime a war-time organization. I do not propose to take up the time of the committee for more than a minute, because our position was made clear on a bill under this title—Canadian information service—which was introduced by the government. We think \$640,700 is altogether too much money for a service which was not considered important enough to have prior to the war. I wish therefore, to move:

That the item be reduced from \$640,700 to half that figure, or \$320,350.