

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, are there any questions?

Mr. CHATTERTON: Are these consultants officials of the civil service commission or are they outside consultants?

Mr. MACE: They are outside consultants.

Mr. CHATTERTON: Was it just the one firm? If so, could we have the name of that firm?

Mr. MACE: Yes. The firm was Woods Gordon and Company. I do not know whether or not you are familiar, sir, with the procedure but I think you will be interested in knowing that tenders were invited from a number of consultants. There was a selection process. We did not just pick a consultant and have him do the work. We invited tenders.

Mr. CHATTERTON: Did they tender on the basis of a price or on meeting certain requirements?

Mr. MACE: I would suggest both, sir.

Each one of these consultants spent a week in the department examining our organization and establishing what they felt they should do and cover in this over-all survey of financial management. They submitted a price and in accordance with how much their figure was and the service they expected to perform we made a selection.

Mr. CHATTERTON: When will this report be submitted? Has it been submitted to date?

Mr. MACE: It was submitted on June 23. That was the cut-off date.

Mr. FLEMING (*Okanagan-Revelstoke*): Have they managed to save you \$42,000 to date?

Mr. MACE: The total price was just over \$80,000. It was a six months survey. It was an excellent report, but which will take us a considerable time to implement.

Mr. CHATTERTON: Have similar surveys been made of other departments of government?

Mr. MACE: There were three other departments also surveyed at the same time. The departments of agriculture and transport were surveyed on the same basis, which was mainly in respect of financial management. There was also another survey undertaken of the department of northern affairs. However, the latter was a much broader survey and one in which other areas of administration were taken into consideration. However, out of all this they expect to bring in ground rules which will be applicable to the whole service in this particular field.

The CHAIRMAN: What was the other item which was not dealt with?

Mr. MACE: It was 15a.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions on 1a? If not, we will now call item 15a.

15a—Other benefits including treatment and related allowances, burials and memorials, the training of certain pensioners under regulations approved by the governor in council and repayments under subsection (3) of section 12 of the Veterans' Rehabilitation Act, \$45,000.

Mr. MACE: This is a supplementary estimate which Mr. Rider would have dealt with. It concerns veterans' benefits and is vote number 15a. This is a supplementary estimate. It would not be in the blue book but in the supplementation thereto.

This is an item of some \$45,000 to supplement our provision for veterans benefits. Mr. Rider would have dealt with this the other day but we proceeded too fast with that particular section.