

As this was a personal matter which involved members of Senator Belisle's own family, it would seem to me quite natural that he be reticent about it.

Senator BELISLE: It does not matter to me.

The CHAIRMAN: Perhaps you can leave it with me. When the answer comes it can be brought to the attention of the committee, as a matter of interest to the committee, and can be dealt with at that time. I think we can deal with some of these matters in this way. Are there any other suggestions or questions?

Senator ASELTINE: There is one question I should like to ask. I am always interested in these \$1 items. They used to cause me much difficulty when I was trying to explain them. I understand, of course, that a one-dollar item is put in for the purpose of making provision for certain payments at a time when the total amount is not known, and because it is necessary to have some authority before payments can be made. I notice on page 10 that there is a one-dollar item under Fisheries, and there is another one on page 12 in connection with the National Employment Service. There is another one with respect to Mines and Technical Surveys on page 13. It would be a good idea to have some explanation given of those items.

The CHAIRMAN: I think your point is well taken. I will ask Dr. Davidson to explain why items are put here in the amount of \$1. However, I do not think his explanation will be as you have suggested.

Dr. DAVIDSON: Senator Aseltine, the items which cause us most difficulty are the smallest ones and the biggest ones, and quite frequently we receive questions about the \$1 items. I have to say that they are put in for a variety of reasons. May I take you through a few examples to indicate this?

Look at page 4 under "Land Rehabilitation, Irrigation and Water Storage Projects". This is one to which you did not refer. It is Vote 55d under Agriculture, down towards the bottom of the page. The purpose of this one dollar item is not to provide for additional funds.

Senator ASELTINE: It is not?

Dr. DAVIDSON: There are sufficient funds in the vote which would otherwise not be required to cover what moneys will be required if this vote is passed. The purpose of this is the following: In the main estimates the vote is intended to provide for expenditures in respect of land rehabilitation, irrigation and water storage projects, but it does not cover the provinces of Ontario and Quebec where a serious drought condition developed in 1965, and for which it is desired to provide some assistance.

Senator McCUTCHEON: Mr. Chairman, would it be fair to ask Dr. Davidson if the principal purpose of the one-dollar items is to effect changes in legislation by approval of the estimates?

Dr. DAVIDSON: If you include in that, Senator McCutcheon, legislation which consists simply of vote wordings in previous estimates then technically that is correct, but this is not to actually amend legislation that is on the statute books, except by way of the Appropriation Act. In other words, the vote wording appearing in the main estimates which was not broad enough to cover this particular situation.

Senator McCUTCHEON: Then, let me ask you this question: does the legislation cover the provinces of Ontario and Quebec?

Dr. DAVIDSON: The vote does not cover them as it presently stands.

Senator McCUTCHEON: But the legislation does?

Dr. DAVIDSON: There may be no legislation at all.

The CHAIRMAN: The previous Appropriation Acts would.