

department, including the mineral resources, the treasury office and the coal board. The geological survey building is nearing completion and it is anticipated that the geological survey of Canada will move to their new quarters on Booth street in June or July of this year. The surveys and mapping building is under construction and it is anticipated that it will be ready for occupancy in 1961.

Mr. DUMAS: Thank you.

Mr. ROBICHAUD: Mr. Chairman, could the minister explain why there is an increase of ten full-time positions, as set out on page 258; it shows an increase from 143 to 153. What are those positions? At the same time perhaps he could give us some explanation as to the note there, "anticipated savings due to staff turnover". I notice there is a saving of \$10,000. Could you explain how this is arrived at?

Dr. BOYER: This saving is something which is done in each of the votes. There is always a certain number of positions vacant between the time they become vacated and the time they are occupied. Nor can we recruit for all the positions available. As a result, there is a token adjustment at the end of some votes for such contingencies.

Mr. ROBICHAUD: The increase is from 143 to 153 full-time employees, as set out at page 258.

Dr. BOYER: The answer to Mr. Robichaud is that we are getting into card punching and tabulation work on our statistics and other operational data for the department. This will mean a few additional employees for the I.B.M. tabulating equipment. The other additions are for the editorial and information and other divisions of the administration services.

Mr. ROBICHAUD: There is also an increase of \$10,900 for office stationery, supplies and equipment; is there any particular reason for this substantial increase?

Mr. COMTOIS: Mr. Pack will answer that question for you.

Mr. K. M. PACK (*Chief Administrative Officer*): In answer to your last question, the basic cause of the increase is the cost of the rental of the I.B.M. equipment to which the deputy minister has just referred. We have not had that expenditure in previous years and provision had to be made this year for that rental. Basically, that is the reason.

Mr. COATES: I would like to direct a question with regard to this I.B.M. equipment. How much of this type of equipment is used by this department at the present time?

Mr. PACK: Mr. Chairman, during the past two or three years we have used I.B.M. equipment on a rental basis. In other words, we have turned over our statistical requirements to the I.B.M. centre in Ottawa and used their facilities. But, as a result of a report made by the Civil Service Commission and ourselves it was considered more economical and suitable in the future to install our own. That is planned for approximately May 15 of this year. Until now we have had it taken care of on a rental basis by the local I.B.M. Ottawa centre.

Mr. COATES: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask a further question. Would it not be possible to cut down on your staff, your clerical staff particularly, with the use of this type of equipment by the department.

Mr. PACK: I think I can deal with this negatively by saying that, had we not taken steps for the I.B.M. equipment, we would have had to ask for an increase in staff. To that extent it has been offset.

Mr. COATES: Further to that, could the department use more of this type of equipment than it is presently using?