

Supply—National Defence

Mr. Fulton: Is the minister able, amongst other things in the detail here, to pick out for us the amount which he is asking for, under these sundries under navy, army and air force, specifically for recruiting and to give us the comparative figures of expenditure for 1949-50?

Mr. Claxton: Recruiting expense under sundries?

Mr. Fulton: Yes.

Mr. Claxton: The amount provided for in the present estimates is \$500,000. The amount spent in 1949-50 is approximately \$1 million.

Mr. Fulton: Is that \$500,000 for all three services?

Mr. Claxton: For all three services.

Mr. Fulton: In each sundry item under the main services you have recruiting expenses?

Mr. Claxton: Yes. I can give them.

Mr. Fulton: Is there a break-down there?

Mr. Claxton: That is right. I can give them to you. There is \$100,000 for the navy, \$200,000 for the army.

Mr. Fulton: That would be \$200,000 for the air force, then?

Mr. Claxton: Yes.

Mr. Harkness: Several times in the past, particularly last year, the minister has made the statement that the cost per man in the services is \$2,600. I have never been quite clear as to what is meant by that statement. Does that cost cover his pay and allowances, food, uniform and housing only, or does it also cover the weapons with which he is equipped, and the overhead? Exactly what is the meaning of that statement?

Mr. Claxton: It includes pay, allowances, pension provision, food, medical services and hospitalization, personal transportation, and some other minor items. Generally it includes everything that would be equivalent to his pay or salary if he were a civilian. It includes nothing for accommodation and nothing for weapons.

Mr. Harkness: It does not include housing?

Mr. Claxton: No.

Mr. Harkness: When we were discussing this item about two weeks ago, the minister gave us a break-down of the civilian personnel at defence headquarters, as he indicated a few minutes ago, and stated that the increase in this item for general administration was due to an increase in inspection services to quite an extent. There are two

[Mr. Claxton.]

items particularly as to which I could not understand why, because of increased inspection services, there would be an increase. One is stores and equipment, where the increase is from \$13,500 to \$136,900; and the other is the item of maintenance, repairs and operating expenses of property, which is increased from \$10,000 to \$97,500. There is an increase of about ten times in each case in those two items. I wonder if the minister would explain why that is?

Mr. Claxton: May I ask the hon. member again for the reference?

Mr. Harkness: It is on page 168, under details of services, departmental administration. The third item down is maintenance, repairs and operating expenses of property; and the fourth item down is stores and equipment.

Mr. Claxton: The increase from \$10,000 to \$97,500 for inspection services is largely accounted for because the inspection services have taken over from the defence research board the proving ground in the Valcartier area. This item therefore is sought to cover that additional expenditure for inspection services. There will be an over-all decrease in the cost of defence because, through this transfer of functions from the defence research board to the inspection service, there will be a reduction in personnel. With regard to stores and equipment, the increase from \$13,500 to \$136,900 is almost entirely due to equipment: laboratory, gauges, chemicals, proof material and replacement of vehicles for inspection services, owing to their increased activities, which are due to the fact that we are buying more equipment.

Mr. Harkness: You have another item there of travel, transportation, freight and express. I should like to know how much of that travel item is entirely for the civilian employees of defence headquarters. None of the expenses of officers of the three services who are employed at headquarters and who travel is included in this item. That will be included in a separate item?

Mr. Claxton: That is correct.

Mr. Harkness: What is the amount for travel of the civilian employees?

Mr. Claxton: That is all civilian. The amount of \$242,250 for 1950-51 is travel, et cetera, for the inspection services.

Mr. Harkness: The item says: "Travel, transportation, freight and express." What is the amount that is actually travel?

Mr. Claxton: The amount for travel is \$237,500 for that year, and for freight and express \$4,750.