

January 5, 1948

**Mr. Hollett** I give notice that I will on tomorrow ask that the Commission of Government lay on the table copies of the following documents:

Letters Patent of 28 March, 1876  
Letters Patent of 17 July, 1905 and  
Letters Patent of 30 January, 1934.

Mr. Chairman, I have here a reply to a question which I tabled sometime ago. Would it be in order to read that?

**Mr. Chairman** If it is for the information of the House, Mr. Hollett, of course.

**Mr. Hollett** I will read the question first:

Whereas under Annex IV, page 16,<sup>1</sup> of the "Proposed Arrangements for the Entry of Newfoundland into Confederation" dated at Ottawa, Canada, October 30, 1947, under heading "Probable Expenditures", there is an item titled "Other Departmental Expenditures, \$9,400,000" which it is understood is meant to take care of the cost of extending existent services to Newfoundland in a typical year should Newfoundland enter into confederation;

Now therefore will the said Department of External Affairs inform this National Convention at the earliest possible moment as to the following:

Are the "Existing Services" referred to, those outlined under heading "Public Services provided by Canada", sections 3 to 6 inclusive, excepting always of course, section 4, sub-sections (1) and (2) and section 5 sub-section (1)? If so, what are the allocations in respect of each several service? Or generally, it is desired that an understandable breakdown be made of the amount of \$9,400,000.

And the answer is as follows:

(a) With one exception the "Existing Services" referred to are those outlined in the question. The exception is an estimate of the cost of operation of the telegraph system, which is not included in this table. Since revenues derived from the system are expected roughly to balance expenditures, it was not thought necessary to include estimates for either. (See succeeding answer.)

(b) "Ordinary" Expenditures of the Dominion Government in Newfoundland.

The following items listed below, comprising the \$9,400,000 estimated for "Other Departmental Expenditures" (as shown on p.16 of "Proposed Arrangements for the Entry of Newfoundland into Confederation"), were compiled chiefly from reports submitted by various departments of the Dominion government. They represent estimates of the additional cost of extending "ordinary" Canadian services, supplied by these departments, to Newfoundland in a "typical" year.

The figures must be regarded as tentative estimates only, and not as commitments by the Dominion government. Actual expenditures might prove to be higher or lower than the estimates, depending upon circumstances which cannot now be foreseen. Since these figures are estimates of additional expenditures in a "typical" year and do not take into account the abnormal conditions prevailing at the present time, it is anticipated that additional expenditures during the first few years of union might be considerably higher than the estimates shown.

It should be emphasised again that these estimates relate to the *additional* expenditure arising from inclusion of Newfoundland and therefore do not include any part of the existing departmental expenditures, even though such existing expenditures may be of benefit to Newfoundland.

*Estimates prepared in the several departments for the information of members of the Canadian Cabinet Committee appointed to meet the Delegation from the Newfoundland National Convention. [See bottom of next page]\**

That is the breakdown, and I would appreciate it if that reply could be handed to each member of the Convention.

**Mr. Smallwood** Mr. Chairman, I too have replies to some questions I directed to the Government of Canada, some at the request of members of the Convention, and some others of them at my own instigation.

First question: To ask His Excellency the Governor in Commission to ask the Government of Canada whether the recent published statement of Honourable Mr. Duplessis,

<sup>1</sup>Volume II:520.