

*Newfoundland*

other provinces of Canada in assisting in the development of industries.

**Mr. Green:** I hope they will adopt a different attitude from that adopted elsewhere. During recent months we have been receiving complaints in the west that the industrial development bank is getting very sticky about assisting industry. If they adopt a policy of that kind in Newfoundland there will not be a very bright outlook for the people there.

**Mr. Abbott:** I do not know on what my hon. friend is basing his statement that they are becoming sticky. The management of the bank has the responsibility of making loans which have good prospects of being repaid. I think the hon. member will find when we come to consider the industrial development bank that they have been making loans in his own province and that the bank has adopted a very fair policy there, as it has in most other provinces.

**Mr. Green:** If the minister will check up the statements made by some of the officials of that bank and of the Bank of Canada I think he will find they were to the effect that a policy has been deliberately adopted of not being so free with loans. It is not a matter of whether the loans will be repaid; it is simply a matter of holding down expansion. There has been considerable criticism over a policy of that type being adopted on the west coast and I suggest to the minister that he check the situation because I think it is as I have stated.

**Mr. Abbott:** I am sure my hon. friend does not want me to debate the operations of the industrial development bank. I have been following them pretty closely and there will be an opportunity later in the session to consider its operations.

**Mr. Claxton:** I should like to supplement the answer of my colleague to the question put by the hon. member for Vancouver South about the promotion of industry. I can say that, in anticipation of the possibility or probability that union would take place on March 31, officers of the Department of Trade and Commerce were sent to St. John's. There is also a committee of senior officials in Ottawa specially appointed to deal with problems of the continuation and development of industry in Newfoundland. Further, a special inquiry was made by a team of officials into the prospects and outlook of the seventy-five relatively small industries that exist in Newfoundland to see by what means they could be assisted and encouraged. If the Minister of Trade and Commerce were here he would, I think, be able to give one or two rather striking illus-

[Mr. Abbott.]

trations of the way in which we expect that union will assist the development of industry in Newfoundland.

**Mr. Green:** Does the Minister of National Defence know of any definite plan for assisting industry there?

**Mr. Claxton:** Yes. Some steps have already been taken to meet certain special needs of Newfoundland industry—for example, in the supply of raw materials.

**The Deputy Chairman:** We are dealing with section 24. When the hon. member for Vancouver South rose I was just about to ask the committee if they would carry section 23. I wonder if they would do that now?

**Mr. Macdonnell (Muskoka-Ontario):** As I understand it, we still have to get certain information which has been asked for under section 23, and which the Minister of Finance is to give us tomorrow.

**Mr. Abbott:** Whether it comes under section 23 or section 24 is immaterial. Section 23 happens to relate to the assumption of the debt. I undertook to obtain for the hon. member for Rosedale, and I should be able to have it at the opening of the house tomorrow afternoon, a statement by main heads of the major items of expenditure. I could not give it to him broken down by individual departments, but I presume the committee want to know the main headings showing how the figure of \$50 million which I have given is made up. I hope to be able to have that tomorrow afternoon. There are, of course, a great many non-recurring items in that figure. There are amounts which have to be paid in adjustment of accountable advances, taking over consumable stores, and that sort of thing, which are referred to in the document. I will have that statement available for the committee tomorrow afternoon.

**Mr. Macdonnell (Muskoka-Ontario):** I would suggest that section 23 be left over. It seems to me it is always better to have a section still under review, and not be discussing it afterwards when it is supposed to have been passed. Then we seem to be at a disadvantage in asking questions.

**The Deputy Chairman:** I should like to say to the hon. member that the only point I had in mind was to keep things in order. I wanted to keep the record straight. But if the committee decides to let section 23 stand, that is all right.

**Mr. Abbott:** For instance, I could give the information under section 26, which provides for the financial payments to Newfoundland. I think it is immaterial under which section I give it.