



STANDING COMMITTEE ON CROWN AND CENTRAL AGENCIES

Hansard Verbatim Report

No. 12 – March 10, 2009



Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

Twenty-sixth Legislature

STANDING COMMITTEE ON CROWN AND CENTRAL AGENCIES

Mr. Dustin Duncan, Chair
Weyburn-Big Muddy

Mr. Kim Trew, Deputy Chair
Regina Coronation Park

Hon. Nancy Heppner
Martensville

Mr. Tim McMillan
Lloydminster

Mr. Jim Reiter
Rosetown-Elrose

Mr. Randy Weekes
Biggar

Mr. Kevin Yates
Regina Dewdney

[The committee met at 15:05.]

The Chair: — Good afternoon, committee members. Before we begin we are going to change the agenda for the sake of time issues with our first minister that is to appear. So if the committee is agreed to that, we will just change the order and have the minister responsible for the Provincial Secretary report to the committee first, and then we'll have Minister Cheveldayoff and SaskEnergy as soon as we take care of this order of business. Is that agreed by the committee?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Okay. We will change the agenda. Before we get to the minister, there is a number of documents that will be tabled with committee members, so we'll table those at this time.

Members of the committee, good afternoon. We have this afternoon: Vice-Chair, Mr. Trew; Mr. Yates. From the government side, we have Mr. Weekes, Ms. Heppner, Mr. McMillan. And Mr. Allchurch is substituting for Mr. Reiter. And we're also joined by Mr. Broten, Mr. Nilson, and Mr. Van Mulligen.

**General Revenue Fund
Supplementary Estimates — March
Office of the Provincial Secretary
Vote 80**

Subvotes (OP01) and (OP02)

The Chair: — Minister Elhard, welcome to the committee. Before the committee members today, we are considering supplementary estimates for the Office of the Provincial Secretary. This is vote 80, and it's found on page 15 of the Supplementary Estimates book.

Minister Elhard, welcome to the committee. If you could, identify the officials that are with you. And if you have opening statements, you can make your remarks at this time.

Hon. Mr. Elhard: — Thank you, Mr. Chair. It's a privilege to be in front of the committee once again to talk about expenditures incurred by the Office of the Provincial Secretary.

And here with me today, to my right is our deputy provincial secretary, Mr. Rick Mantey, and Marj Abel is director of financial planning for our ministry and is seated to my left.

We are here to review supplementary estimates for the 2008-09 fiscal year. And, Mr. Chairman, the Office of the Provincial Secretary's budget has a forecasted net overexpenditure of \$259,000. Of this amount, 59,000 is a direct result of participation in and sponsorship of Vigil 1914-1918, a national project to remember the fallen soldiers of World War I.

The total cost of the Vigil project is approximately \$140,000, and this amount was supported by numerous public and private funding partners, as well as in-kind donations. Over 5,000 of the 68,000 soldiers honoured were from the province of Saskatchewan, including the last soldier killed just before the

ceasefire that ended the Great War. It was a privilege to support this worthwhile project and to honour those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

Fifty-one thousand dollars of the total overexpenditure is salary related, including a number of reclassifications throughout the ministry and market adjustments for French language translators which bring their salaries to a level that is comparable with the current market rate.

A further \$149,000 is related to operating expenses. This includes one-time grants for the University of Regina youth dialogue and to the Assemblée communautaire francosaskoise, and increased costs related to database application maintenance. I think that pretty much covers the various areas of overexpenditure and we would now be pleased to respond to questions.

The Chair: — Thank you, Minister. Again, committee members, page 15, Office of the Provincial Secretary, vote 80, central management services (OP01). Mr. Nilson.

Mr. Nilson: — Thank you and good afternoon. My first question relates to whether any of this increased cost relates to the high SaskEnergy rates this winter.

Hon. Mr. Elhard: — To the best of my knowledge, no, we have not had to be concerned about any impact in that area.

Mr. Nilson: — Are there any of the costs that are other than one-time expenditures?

Hon. Mr. Elhard: — The understanding I have is that outside of the adjustments for wages that we talked about, they are all one-time expenditures. But adjustments for wages of course carry through as we plan our budget for the upcoming year.

Mr. Nilson: — So can you give us an idea of what percentage of the amount here relates to those increases?

Hon. Mr. Elhard: — Well \$51,000 was the amount identified as the amount that was required to adjust salaries for marketplace competitiveness, and the balance of that was related to a review of the various levels of position that individuals in the ministry occupied. There was a particular challenge in terms of the level of funding for positions at the Lieutenant Governor's office.

Mr. Nilson: — Okay. Could you explain that a little more, please.

Hon. Mr. Elhard: — Well we have French-language translators as part of our ministry, because of the office of French-language services. And when we reviewed the remuneration that was paid to the translators, it was determined that market factors would require us to make our payment to those people more competitive. And so we adjusted salaries accordingly.

That exercise was undertaken with the assistance of the Public Service Commission. That is part of the role and function that they play. When we did that market analysis, we found that we

needed to offer a little more money to those particular positions.

But then there was also a review of the Lieutenant Governor's office. We undertook to evaluate each of the positions that work in that particular environment. There was reclassification for virtually all of the employees, if I recall correctly, and that had an impact on our salaries.

Mr. Nilson: — Did this result in increase in numbers of staff, or decreases?

Hon. Mr. Elhard: — It didn't result in an increase in staff. It just resulted primarily in an increase in money for each of the various positions that have been reclassified.

Mr. Nilson: — So is any of the money here related to the termination of the former director in that protocol area?

Hon. Mr. Elhard: — I think there is probably some allowance for costs associated with termination, but specifics of that amount aren't available for us to discuss publicly.

Mr. Nilson: — Can you explain whether that particular termination related to this review you did of the office, or what happened?

Hon. Mr. Elhard: — Maybe I should ask you to be more specific about the termination you are talking about. Can you identify specifically which termination you are talking about? Because I may have misunderstood your question.

Mr. Nilson: — I think there was a termination of the head of protocol by the government, and it struck me that when I was looking at this, that there must be some provision in this money to deal with that particular situation.

Hon. Mr. Elhard: — I just wanted to confirm that that's what you were thinking about because that . . . My answer stands. That's what I was assuming you meant. And we are in negotiations with the former head of protocol as yet. There is a certain amount of money that is set aside to address settlement in those kinds of circumstances. We don't have an opportunity to discuss the terms of that settlement publicly. And because it's a personnel matter, I'd just as soon not raise it specifically. But there is some amount of money in there to help address that issue.

Mr. Nilson: — Now you indicated there was a study done or review done. Was that done internally or did you bring somebody in from another province to look at the whole situation?

Hon. Mr. Elhard: — If you don't mind, the specifics of this particular study I will ask Mr. Mantey to discuss.

Mr. Mantey: — Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Through you to Mr. Nilson, a reorganization of the ministry was undertaken by myself by way of the operations of the protocol office, and whether the office of protocol and the executive director of the Government House — which was one position — should remain as one position given that the direction that the government is going in by way of international relations and new protocol efforts.

It was based upon that preliminary workload, and the direction of that, that review, was undertaken over the course of a year. And the decisions regarding personnel were made after that review by myself as the permanent head.

Mr. Nilson: — Okay. So then we now have somebody who's in charge of protocol and international relations separate from the person who is in charge of Government House. Is that what you're saying?

Mr. Mantey: — Part of the reorganization is that there was a chief of protocol and then there was the executive director for Government House. That's correct.

Mr. Nilson: — And so would that be the explanation for the increase in salaries in this particular area then?

Mr. Mantey: — No. The increase, as the minister indicated, that there is an amount set aside for the severance for the former chief of protocol in here. But this, what it really revolves around, the reclassifications for Lieutenant Governor's office, the market supplements for the French-language translators.

Mr. Nilson: — Were there any other terminations in this process?

Mr. Mantey: — No.

Mr. Nilson: — The market supplement for the French-language coordination, is that an expense that is now embedded in the salaries for those jobs so that you will be using a new base when we see the budget next week?

Mr. Mantey: — That is correct, Mr. Nilson.

Mr. Nilson: — And is that the same for all the positions then in this whole department? Or I'm not sure what you'd call it; it's the Provincial Secretary's office. So all of those jobs now have a new base and so that any increase in salary in the budget next week will be based, will be off of the higher base rather than the budget amount from last year.

So can you tell us what percentage increase there is here so that we can then add it when we look next week at whatever the figures are.

Hon. Mr. Elhard: — The information I have, to the hon. member, is that we don't have the exact percentage figures with us here today. But we can get them and provide them for you at a later date.

Mr. Nilson: — Yes, that would be appreciated. Now a couple of other questions. Where is the World War I memorial funding? Which line item does it come under here of those four?

Hon. Mr. Elhard: — To the member, you'd find the amount included in the executive management section, under central management and services — the amount of 100,000. So the \$100,000 figure includes the amount attached to the Vigil and other miscellaneous operating costs.

Mr. Nilson: — Okay. But earlier you said the Vigil cost

\$140,000, and you received some funds from some other places. So how much money came from the Provincial Secretary's budget for the Vigil?

Hon. Mr. Elhard: — When the request was made for funding, we asked for \$59,000 that would accrue to the Provincial Secretary's office to cover off expenses that we anticipated. We have not, at this point, identified a full \$59,000 of expenditures, but we don't know if all the bills are in just yet either. I think we're probably in excess of 52 or \$53,000, and we anticipate that by the time all the bills come in, we will probably spend the \$59,000 we asked for.

The total cost of the Vigil is estimated in the \$140,000 range, and we, of that amount, got a fair list of donations from other parties — both private sector, individual donations, and some corporate donations from a variety of donors. I can probably provide a fair amount of that information in some detail if you would like that.

Mr. Nilson: — Well I think at some point people would be interested to know because it is a relatively reasonable model for celebrations. And so maybe the program showed all of the corporate donors, but might as well put it on the record as well. So if you could provide that.

Hon. Mr. Elhard: — I could provide that in detail for the committee as well.

Mr. Nilson: — Okay, thank you. Are there any of the expenses involved here that relate to advertising contracts in any way?

Hon. Mr. Elhard: — Excuse me. The answer directly to your question is, no. The only thing that might be misunderstood is the fact that there was advertising associated with the Vigil, but if that was purchased, it was very small amounts. Most of that was in-kind contributions by the various advertising media.

Mr. Nilson: — Okay. Were any of the expenditures here involving purchase of land or of leasing of property?

Hon. Mr. Elhard: — To the best of my knowledge, no.

Mr. Nilson: — Do you actually know where the Great Seal is right now?

Hon. Mr. Elhard: — Much has been made of that question. And I have very qualified and capable people who surround me and provide me good advice, and I take it from their comments that they have it under wraps.

Mr. Nilson: — So is it located in this building or is it located at Government House or where is the big seal — the Great Seal, I mean?

[15:30]

Mr. Mantey: — Mr. Chairman, to the member, the Great Seal is located in my office.

Mr. Nilson: — The public often wonder about that. It's an important feature of things that happen.

Mr. Mantey: — It gets fed twice a day.

Mr. Nilson: — Thank you very much for your answers today and we look forward to seeing you in a few weeks.

Hon. Mr. Elhard: — Just if I might, to the member, I was reluctant to say where it was because it has become, the Great Seal has become the subject of a lot of speculation and good humour. And I was afraid if we identified where it might be, it might actually become the subject of a kidnapping plot. So we were trying to keep that off the record.

The Chair: — Okay, thank you. Thank you, Minister. We'll move on to the vote. Vote 80, Office of the Provincial Secretary. This is found on page 15. Central management and services subvote (OP01) in the amount of \$100,000. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — That's carried.

Provincial Secretary subvote (OP02) in the amount of \$159,000. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — That is carried. I'll now ask a member of the committee to move the following resolution:

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31, 2009 the following sums for the Office of the Provincial Secretary in the amount of \$259,000.

Mr. Weekes: — I so move.

The Chair: — It's been moved by Mr. Weekes. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — That is carried.

[Vote 80 agreed to.]

The Chair: — Thank you, Minister Elhard, and for your officials for appearing this afternoon.

Hon. Mr. Elhard: — If I might just say thank you to the committee for the interest shown in the Office of the Provincial Secretary. It's a pleasure to serve in this role and to represent the Government of Saskatchewan and the province of Saskatchewan through the good offices of this particular ministry.

The Chair: — Thank you for your words. And we will just take a few moments here as we wait for the next minister to appear. Thank you, Minister.

[The committee recessed for a period of time.]

Lending and Investing Activities
SaskEnergy Incorporated
Vote 150

Subvote (SE01)

The Chair: — All right, committee members, we'll move on to the next area. This is found on page 16 of the Supplementary Estimates book. It's vote 150, SaskEnergy Incorporated. And, Minister Cheveldayoff, thank you for appearing before the committee, and thanks for your willingness to juggle a little bit of the scheduling here. So if you want to introduce your official with you, and if you have an opening statement, we'll hear from you at this time.

Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff: — Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. And to committee members, I apologize for being a little late, but the opportunity to interact with the media after question period extended for a longer period of time than I anticipated. Nevertheless I'm glad to be here and to welcome Greg Mrazek who is the vice-president, finance and CFO [chief financial officer] at SaskEnergy.

What we are coming here for, supplementary estimate vote 150 to borrow \$30 million which will enable SaskEnergy through Bayhurst Gas, a subsidiary, to purchase gas for storage in a naturally occurring cavern around Pierceland, Saskatchewan. It's something that SaskEnergy has entered into for the last number of years — three years to be exact. In 2007, a profit was made of \$3 million. In 2008, a profit again of \$3 million, and profits are forecast into the future.

I would reiterate that this has nothing to do with SaskEnergy's main business of providing gas to homes and businesses across Saskatchewan, so we'll just concentrate on the former.

The Chair: — Thank you, Minister. Again, this is vote 150, SaskEnergy, found on page 16. It's loan subvote (SE01) in the amount of \$30 million. And just a reminder to members that there is actually no vote on this matter — it's statutory — but we will proceed with questions at this time. Mr. Trew.

Mr. Trew: — Thank you, Mr. Chair, Minister, and his official. Minister, I missed the years. You said a \$3 million profit; you said two different years. Just to start, what years?

Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff: — 2007 and 2008. In each of those years, a profit was made of \$3 million.

The process is very simple to inject gas into these caverns, and the cavern out near Pierceland allows for the release of gas in a very slow manner. So it can't be released in a fast manner like it would need to be to service the rest of SaskEnergy's needs across the province. But being able to choose the time when you can inject the gas and the price that you can inject it in, and then sell it for a profit over a period of time, is something that SaskEnergy has done and does very well, and wants to do more of in the future.

Mr. Trew: — Thank you. Is the process — other than the fact that the Pierceland field is slower, the cavern is slow at releasing gas — is the process any different in any of your other caverns?

Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff: — Well the Pierceland is a naturally occurring cavern. The ones in Prud'homme and Asquith and Regina are specifically built to undertake much more pressure, and as a result to be able to move gas in a very fast and efficient manner. So the other three are very different than this one. I'm told that gas will come out and move at about 30 kilometres an hour, and at a speed that would not be of any benefit to the other operations of SaskEnergy.

Mr. Trew: — Minister, does the Pierceland cavern tie in with the other gas lines, the same gas line that SaskEnergy uses throughout the piece?

Mr. Mrazek: — There's a transmission line that runs from the Pierceland field into the transmission system, yes. It does physically connect.

Mr. Trew: — So my furnace wouldn't know whether the gas came from Pierceland or from the cavern just south of Regina or anywhere else for that matter. It may not have ever hit a cavern.

Mr. Mrazek: — Yes, everything's distinguished in this case on a contractual basis, rather than a physical basis.

Mr. Trew: — Right, so I'm just trying to establish, a molecule of gas, whether it's in Pierceland or Regina or anywhere in the SaskEnergy system, it's still a molecule that you have, notwithstanding the logistics of getting gas from the, I'll use the Regina gas cavern, to Nipawin. I mean the logistics of that are difficult, to put it mildly, but the gas is available to get into the system. And I know that they try and equalize the pressure, in broad strokes, that's the best way I can describe it. You don't have pressures of 16 pounds in Carrot River and 26 pounds in Eastend. You want to look for that equilibrium much like water in broad strokes.

The other salt caverns, what's the process of filling them? Is it done on a cash flow basis, or does the corporation borrow money to buy the gas to put into, pick your cavern, whichever one you want.

Mr. Mrazek: — Sure. The process for purchasing natural gas, SaskEnergy purchases natural gas from April 1 until October 31, and over that period of time that gas is injected into storage. So the money used to purchase that gas comes from short-term debt. We have a short-term debt line with the province of \$400 million, so it comes in there. Then when the gas is sold from November 1 to March 31, that's when the cash comes in from customers.

So it looks kind of like of a saw tooth in terms of cash flow. Your debt rises as you purchase the gas, then as the gas is sold and the cash comes in, then the debt is paid down. So it's kind of a normal sort of a cycle that goes on year after year.

Mr. Trew: — Thank you. And each cavern would be its own profit or loss centre for SaskEnergy purposes. You'd know how each cavern is performing.

Mr. Mrazek: — In the case of the utility, the natural gas is purchased at a certain price and is sold at that price. There's no spread on the utility's cost of gas. It's sold at cost. Whereas this

cavern is a cavern which is separated in the sense that the natural gas is tracked going into it, and contractually when it comes out, there's a difference between the purchase price and the selling price to earn a profit. So they're tracked very carefully on a contractual basis that they're not . . . Physically they are connected, but contractually we're very careful not to intermingle that gas.

Mr. Trew: — And you keep track of the volume of molecules required for each contract.

Mr. Mrazek: — Absolutely, truly.

Mr. Trew: — Is this \$30 million, is the gas purchased, is it in Pierceland now, or is it purchased at some future date? And I'll tell you straight-up why I'm asking. The price of natural gas has been straight line virtually for — pick the number of months — but 7, 8, 9 months now, and it's straight line down. That continues. So I'm asking is that 30 million expended on gas? Is that gas purchased?

Mr. Mrazek: — Yes, that gas had been contracted for at this end, so that gas is being injected between January 1, 2009 and March 31, 2009. So the cash will be expended over that particular period of time. Then the sale of that gas will commence in November 2009, and it'll continue on until October 2013.

Mr. Trew: — So this salt cavern at Pierceland doesn't follow the normal cycle. As I've always understood, SaskEnergy uses its salt caverns to essentially fill in the summer months, when the requirements for natural gas for consumers is lower, and then SaskEnergy draws it off in the winter. But what I've just heard doesn't exactly square with that. Can you help me understand what's different?

Mr. Mrazek: — Yes. This particular storage field is a depleted storage field and it operates irrespective of the weather conditions in Saskatchewan. We are able to inject the gas and withdraw the gas irrespective of the weather conditions because it does not fulfill the actual load in the major centres like Saskatoon and Regina. In fact it's, physically it's too far away from Saskatoon, as an example. When the weather comes in Saskatchewan it gets cold pretty quick pretty fast, and because this has such a slow deliverability, when the weather gets really cold really fast, it's too far away to effectively be able to deliver to Saskatoon, as an example.

So Saskatoon is served by caverns at Prud'homme, which are approximately about 30 kilometres outside of Saskatoon. Regina is served by the cavern just outside the city here as well, just a few kilometres out. So it's operated not based on the weather patterns of the province.

Mr. Trew: — Thank you. At risk of beating it to death, I just want to be crystal clear in my mind that this cavern is completely operated completely separate from the manner in which the others are, in terms of it being SaskEnergy gas that's available for SaskEnergy for, whether it be for Evraz or for your furnace or my furnace or anyone else's.

Mr. Mrazek: — That is correct. In a normal cavern situation, you withdraw the gas when the weather is very cold. Today is

an example. Whereas with this cavern, we're actually injecting gas from January 1 until March 31 — and of course the weather is cold. So it is not being used to supply the load centres of the province.

Mr. Trew: — Thank you very much. Is there anything unusual about this gas purchase from any other year?

Mr. Mrazek: — This program has been going on for a number of years, and so it's typical of the way we purchase and sell gas. This is a gas marketing activity so it's strictly profit related in that sense. So it's a normal business cycle that we have. It's approved in our business plan by our board, and it rolls through in terms of the normal way we do gas marketing opportunities.

Mr. Trew: — Okay. Thank you. Mr. Chair, that's my questions.

The Chair: — Okay. Seeing no further questions of the minister, again there was no vote on this item but . . .

Mr. Trew: — If I can . . .

The Chair: — Mr. Trew.

Mr. Trew: — Thanks, Mr. Chair. Since I was asking the questions, I want to thank the minister and his official. I know that I'm pre-empting the Chair in that, but since I was the one asking the questions, and I appreciate the frankness of the replies, Minister, and Greg. Thank you.

[15:45]

The Chair: — Just to ensure that it's on the record, this is SaskEnergy Inc., vote 150, loans (SE01) in the amount of \$30,000,000, found on page 16. And the committee has considered this item.

[Vote 150 — Statutory.]

The Chair: — And we want to thank the minister and his officials for appearing this afternoon.

Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff: — Thank you very much, Mr. Chair, to all members of the committee and to Mr. Mrazek for coming today. I appreciate it, and good luck with the rest of your deliberations.

**General Revenue Fund
Supplementary Estimates — March
Sinking Fund Payments — Government Share
Vote 176**

The Chair: — We'll move on. I believe we have just one final item on our agenda. This is consideration of vote 176. This is sinking fund payments, government share, vote 176 in the amount of \$1,837,893,000. And again on this item there is no vote. It's an amount that is statutory.

Mr. Van Mulligen: — Do we have a minister here to explain this?

The Chair: — I believe we don't. Are there questions on this

matter?

Mr. Van Mulligen: — Of course there's questions.

The Chair: — Okay, we will recess the committee for a time.

Mr. Van Mulligen: — Unless you're in a position to explain it.

The Chair: — No, I'm not.

[The committee recessed for a period of time.]

The Chair: — Okay. Committee members, we'll call this committee meeting back to order. When we left off, we were on vote 176, sinking fund payments on page 17, in the amount of \$1,837,893,000.

There is no vote on this item, but there's a request for a comment to be placed on the record. Mr. Van Mulligen.

Mr. Van Mulligen: — Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. The comments I want to make is this, one perhaps to explain for people that are following these proceedings about what is a sinking fund payment. The government borrows money. It borrows money, bonds that come due like all bonds do, at a certain time. And sometimes you have money that's set aside to pay for those bonds when they come due, as is the case this year where the government has indicated that, because of surplus revenues occasioned by high oil revenues and other high natural resource revenues, that the government's in a position to pay off some of the government's debt.

Well it's not a matter of just paying off the debt. It's not like you're going to the bank to pay it off. What you do is that you set aside money so that when the bonds, the debt comes due, then those debts are retired. So even though the government is saying that, you know, oh we're going to pay down the debt this year by 40 per cent, in fact it's not paying down the debt.

So you might say that this is the fine print pursuant to a number of billboards that people see in Saskatchewan about the government paying down the debt this year by 40 per cent. First it's not 40 per cent. It's 38.8 per cent to be exact, so the 40 per cent represents a rounding off and members can make of that what they will.

But the government is not actually paying down the debt either. This is the fine print. What the government is doing is in fact setting money aside so that 40 per cent may not be realized until next year or the year after or the year after that. And that's the only comment I wanted to make, Mr. Chair.

The Chair: — Okay. Thank you, Mr. Van Mulligen, for your comment. At this time, because this is not a matter that needs to be voted, we'll take this as being considered by the committee.

[Vote 176 — Statutory.]

The Chair: — And I believe we have just one more item. This will be the consideration of the committee report. And I just find my copy of it here. As a committee we need to report back to the legislature. This is the fifth report. And it is resolved, the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies' fifth

report, we have before all committee members a draft of the fifth report of the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies and require a member to move the following motion:

That the fifth report of the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies be adopted and presented to the Assembly.

Mr. Weekes: — I so move.

The Chair: — It's been moved by Mr. Weekes. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — And that is carried. And I believe that is the end of our deliberations for today. I would ask a member to move a motion of adjournment.

Mr. McMillan: — I so move.

The Chair: — It has been moved by Mr. McMillan that this committee adjourn. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — That is carried. This committee stands adjourned.

[The committee adjourned at 15.54.]