

THE SENATE

Tuesday, February 5, 1957

The Senate met at 8 p.m., the Hon. Arthur L. Beaubien, Acting Speaker, in the Chair.

Prayers.

Routine proceedings.

APPROPRIATION BILL NO. 1

FIRST READING

A message was received from the House of Commons with Bill 25, an Act for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money for the public service of the financial year ending the 31st March, 1957.

The bill was read the first time.

SECOND READING

The Hon. the Acting Speaker: Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the second time?

Hon. W. Ross Macdonald: Honourable senators, with leave I would move the second reading of the bill now.

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: Then I move the second reading. The bill, which is called Appropriation Bill No. 1, 1957, provides for payment out of the consolidated revenue fund of the sum of \$23,270,000. The details of the bill appear as a schedule thereto. I will mention the various items and explain them briefly.

The first item is for the Department of Agriculture, Vote No. 538, for freight assistance on western feed grain, \$2 million. This deficit is entirely due to the fact that the volume of grain moved up to the end of December, 1956, exceeded the average of recent years by about 270,000 tons. This is the only reason for the shortage in the vote which was passed by Parliament last year.

Hon. Mr. Crerar: What was the total amount paid on freight assistance?

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: The total amount of funds available from April 1, 1956, together with the amount voted for 1956-57, was \$16,046,000.

I have a statement here showing the position of the vote at December 31, 1956, which I shall be pleased to put on *Hansard* if I have the consent of the house.

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

The statement is as follows:

TOTAL TONNAGE ON WHICH FREIGHT ASSISTANCE HAS BEEN PAID AND THE AMOUNT OF MONEY PAID IN CLAIMS FROM OCTOBER 1941 TO DECEMBER 31, 1956

	Total tons	Total amount of money	Average rate per ton over this period
	No.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
Ontario.....	16,472,060	80,988,140.24	4.92
Quebec.....	15,707,220	102,441,328.35	6.52
New Brunswick.....	1,697,928	15,578,590.45	9.17
Nova Scotia.....	2,141,162	21,769,082.05	10.17
Prince Edward Island.....	552,313	5,549,141.65	10.05
British Columbia.....	3,606,710	25,286,024.45	7.00
Newfoundland.....	127,704	2,656,029.11	20.78
Grand totals for the period.....	40,305,097	254,268,336.30	6.31