

MAIN ESTIMATES 1945-46

A message from His Excellency the Governor General, transmitting estimates for the financial year ending March 31, 1946, was presented by Hon. J. L. Ilesley (Minister of Finance), read by Mr. Speaker to the house, and referred to the committee of supply.

FURTHER SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES, 1944-45

A message from His Excellency the Governor General, transmitting further supplementary estimates for the financial year ended March 31, 1945, was presented by Hon. J. L. Ilesley (Minister of Finance), read by Mr. Speaker to the house, and referred to the committee of supply.

WAR APPROPRIATION BILL

PROVISION FOR GRANTING TO HIS MAJESTY AID FOR NATIONAL DEFENCE AND SECURITY

Hon. J. L. ILSLEY (Minister of Finance) moved that the house go into committee at the next sitting to consider the following proposed resolution:

Resolved that it is expedient to introduce a measure to provide, *inter alia*:

1. That a sum not exceeding \$2,000,000,000 be granted to His Majesty towards defraying any expenses or making any advances or loans that may be incurred or granted by or under the authority of the governor in council during the year ending March 31, 1946 for—

(a) the security, defence, peace, order and welfare of Canada;

(b) the conduct of naval, military and air operations in or beyond Canada;

(c) promoting the continuance of trade, industry and business communications, whether by means of insurance or indemnity against war risk or in any other manner whatsoever;

(d) for the purposes of The War Appropriation (United Nations Mutual Aid) Act, 1943, as amended by The War Appropriation (United Nations Mutual Aid) Act, 1944; and

(e) the carrying out of any measure deemed necessary or advisable by the governor in council in consequence of the existence of a state of war.

2. That the governor in council be empowered to raise by way of loan under the provisions of the Consolidated Revenue and Audit Act, 1931, such sum or sums of money, not exceeding in the whole the sum of \$2,000,000,000 as may be required for the purpose of defraying such expenses or making such advances or loans, the principal and interest of any such loan to be a charge upon and payable out of the consolidated revenue fund.

3. That the governor in council be empowered to reexpend, advance or loan moneys that may be received by way of refund or repayment of advances, loans or expenditures under the War Appropriation Acts of 1939 (second session), 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943 and 1944.

He said: His Excellency the Governor General, having been made acquainted with the subject matter of this resolution, recommends it to the consideration of the house.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): Is it not customary to put a resolution of this kind on the order paper? I realize that there is no order paper to-day, but the usual practice is to have some advance notice.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: This resolution will be printed in the *Votes and Proceedings* of to-day.

Mr. GRAYDON: I do not wish to debate this resolution, but I should like to ask one question, if Your Honour will permit me. Upon what principle or basis was the \$2,000,000,000 arrived at? I take it that it is arrived at on the same basis as the civil estimates which will be tabled later. The \$2,000,000,000 is what percentage of the total amount?

Mr. ILSLEY: If the leader of the opposition does not mind, I wish he would let me answer that question when I speak in introducing the resolution. It cannot be answered in a sentence; it will take some time.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): In the meantime this is merely a notice of motion?

Mr. ILSLEY: Yes.

Mr. DORION: I object to this motion because according to standing order 45 a motion of this kind cannot be introduced without notice.

Mr. SPEAKER: This being the first day of this session there is no order paper and no notice could be given before the first day. The notice is now being given.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): Of course that is not quite in accordance with the rules.

Mr. POULIOT: I rise to a question of privilege. I have not understood a word that was uttered by the minister except here and there. Hon. members on this side of the house do not at all understand what is going on. I would ask you to be good enough to tell us in a clear and distinct voice what it is all about. This is a huge amount of money, \$2,000,000,000. We are here to see what is going on and to examine all expenditures. If members of parliament are to play their part in this session they must know what is going on. Nobody knows what this is all about. The expenditure of \$2,000,000,000 is a serious thing. It took almost two months last session to vote \$5,000,000,000. I make these remarks in the best possible spirit, but I want to know what is going on.