Interim Supply

Bill reported and read the third time and passed.

SUPPLY

The house in committee of supply, Mr. Lamoureux in the chair.

INTERIM SUPPLY

Mr. McIlraith moved:

Resolved, that a sum not exceeding \$469,308,-

421.26, being the aggregate of-

(a) One twelfth of the total of all of the items set forth in the main estimates for the fiscal year ending 31st March, 1965, laid before the House of Commons at the present session of parliament, \$329,299,209,25;

(b) an additional one twelfth of the amount of agriculture item 5, privy council item 25 (schedule A) of the said main estimates, \$2,259,116.67;

(c) four twelfths of the total of all of the items in the supplementary estimates (A), laid before the House of Commons at the present session of parliament, \$134,897,245.34;

(d) an additional seven twelfths of the amount of loans, investments and advances item L37a (schedule B) of the supplementary estimates (A),

\$2.625,000.00:

(e) an additional two twelfths of the amount of loans, investments and advances item L12a (schedule C) of the supplementary estimates (a) \$227,850.00,

be granted to Her Majesty on account of the fiscal year ending 31st March, 1965.

The Chairman: Shall the resolution carry?

Mr. Nowlan: Before the resolution carries I presume the minister is going to refer to the items and give us the usual undertaking given at this time.

Mr. McIlraith: Yes, Mr. Chairman. The resolution provides for supply up to July 31, 1964, so that if there is the much talked about long week end by way of holiday it will be necessary to come back for further interim supply if the estimates are not then passed.

Mr. Nowlan: I don't understand the minister's reference to "if". I am sure that is a mistake.

Mr. McIlraith: I appreciate that interjection very much. This interim supply bill is comprised of one twelfth of the total of the items set forth in the main estimates. It is comprised of four twelfths of the total of all items set forth in supplementary estimates A. That brings them up to the same point as the main estimates have been provided for under interim supply bills.

It provides for an additional one twelfth of the amount of the agricultural item No. 5, that is, the item having to do with research and general operations of the experimental farm. The reason for that is because there is more of the work done in the summer.

[Mr. Hays.]

It provides an additional one twelfth of item No. 25 of the privy council, which covers centennial administration expenses. That is to pay for part of the costs of the memorial building in Charlottetown. There is an additional seven twelfths of item L37A, which is the uranium contract that expires in June of this year, and the whole payment will then be due. The effect of this will be to provide for the release of eleven twelfths of the whole item, and reserve one twelfth so that there can be full opportunity for debate when the estimates are before the house.

There is provision for an additional two twelfths of item L12A, which is loans to the government of India to finance the purchase of aircraft and associated spare parts in Canada. That is an old program and this provides for completion. It will be seen that in no instance is any item released by this bill, and the form of the bill I might add, is in the usual form for interim supply bills. I want to give the formal undertaking that the passing of this bill will not prejudice the rights and privileges of hon. members to discuss any item of the estimates when it comes up for discussion in committee of supply. I am undertaking that such rights and privileges will be fully protected and not curtailed by the passage of the bill.

Mr. Nugent: There is enough time before five o'clock to mention one subject which has been raised recently and has been of considerable importance during the last week or so. That is the revelation of the number of people who have been held in jail for what I consider to be an unconscionable length of time, in connection with immigration cases.

I do not want to be unfair to the minister or to the department of immigration staff. I recognize that there is a strong duty on the immigration staff to check to make sure that Canada's laws for immigration are upheld and we do want civil servants who will try to uphold the laws. But with that realization must come the realization to the minister that, unless closely watched, the zealousness of one civil servant can result in considerable harm to individuals, and that in this democratic nation the prolonged incarceration without rightful cause of anyone in prison is one of the most harmful things that can occur.

I am sure the fact that there are many cases must cause the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration much soul searching, and in