

Mr. BENNETT: These amounts have been considered by the special committee?

Mr. HOWE: Yes.

Item agreed to.

Resolutions reported, read the second time and concurred in.

#### SUPPLY—CONCURRENCE

Hon. J. L. ILSLEY (Acting Minister of Finance) moved:

That the reports of the committee of supply made to this house on February 15, 18, 22, 24, 25, March 3, 4, 11, 17, April 25, 26, May 4, 6, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 25, 26, 27, 31, June 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17, less amounts voted in interim supply, be now received, read a second time and concurred in.

Mr. BENNETT: And to-day—July 1.

Mr. ILSLEY: That has been covered previously.

Motion agreed to.

#### WAYS AND MEANS

##### SUPPLY BILL

Hon. J. L. ILSLEY (Acting Minister of Finance) moved that the house go into committee of ways and means.

Motion agreed to and the house went into committee, Mr. Sanderson in the chair.

Mr. ILSLEY moved:

Resolved, that towards making good the supply granted to His Majesty on account of certain expenses of the public service for the fiscal year ending 31st March, 1939, the sums of \$156,230,497.94 and \$88,757,863.42 respectively, be granted out of the consolidated revenue fund of Canada.

Motion agreed to.

Resolution reported, read the second time and concurred in. Mr. Ilesley thereupon moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 176, for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the public service for the fiscal year ending the 31st March, 1939.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first and second time, considered in committee, reported, read the third time and passed.

#### RIGHT HON. R. B. BENNETT

##### REPORTED RETIREMENT FROM PARTY LEADERSHIP—OBSERVATIONS OF THE PRIME MINISTER

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): This concludes the work of the present session so far as the sitting of this house is concerned. As hon. members are aware, my right hon. friend the leader of the opposition (Mr. Bennett) has indicated

that he does not intend to continue in the office of leader of the Conservative party, and therefore may not be sitting where he is to-day when the house resumes at its next session. We have sat opposite each other for some eleven years in our capacity as leaders of our respective political parties, and I should not like to allow this moment to go by without just a parting word to my right hon. friend. He has indicated, as I have said, his desire to retire from the leadership of his party for reasons that are known to all of us. However, since his first intimation was given there have been persistent rumours to the effect that my right hon. friend might still be persuaded to continue in the position which he now holds. The last announcement we have had on the subject which I have regarded as at all authoritative were his words, as reported, that he had no desire to succeed himself as leader of his party. That may be his personal desire, but desires may be overruled by the persuasion of the coming Conservative convention. Not being too sure what the outcome of the convention may be, I do not think I should attempt at this moment to go too far in the way of pronouncing a eulogy upon my right hon. friend. For that reason I shall simply content myself by saying to him, "Au revoir, but not good-bye."

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I cannot find terms adequately to express my grateful appreciation of the observations of the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King). We have sat opposite one another for eleven years. Sometimes our relations have been very cordial, and other times they were not. We have both given and taken. I should think that probably I have given as much as I have taken, and taken as much as I have given. It is all part of the rough and tumble of public life. It is a tiresome task. It is a wearying task. It is an ungrateful task. Yet someone must discharge public duties. Sometimes the lot falls on one and sometimes on another.

In a country like this, where we have so few accumulations, it is almost impossible for a man to adopt public life as a career. I wish we had provision in our universities for endowments which would enable young men to undertake great public service to the state. Whether they be in office or out of office is not a matter of importance. Sometimes one is able out of office to render as useful service to the state as if he were in office. The only thing is to endeavour to keep in mind always some thought of the nation as a whole. Here it is the first day of July, 1938. He would be a bold man indeed who would say that the sense of Canadian unity is anything like