

know what supplementary estimates would be required. To me the increase looked like one that had taken place from November to March, and that was the reason I raised the point. My honourable friend may be quite correct in his explanation.

Hon. Mr. Robertson: Even if the estimates were made up in November, that would further emphasize my point that there had been a higher level of employment than had been anticipated, with the consequence that the government is now required to make a further contribution.

The motion was agreed to, and the bill was read the second time.

THIRD READING

The Hon. the Speaker: When shall the bill be read the third time?

Hon. Mr. Robertson: With leave of the Senate, now.

The motion was agreed to, and the bill was read the third time, and passed.

THE ROYAL ASSENT

The Hon. the Speaker informed the Senate that he had received communication from the Assistant Secretary to the Governor General, acquainting him that the Right Honourable Thibaudeau Rinfret, acting as Deputy of His Excellency the Governor General, would proceed to the Senate Chamber this day at 5.45 p.m. for the purpose of giving the Royal Assent to certain bills.

APPROPRIATION BILL No. 2

SECOND READING

Hon. Mr. Robertson moved the second reading of Bill 15, an Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the public service of the financial year ending the 31st March, 1951.

He said: Honourable senators, before proceeding with my explanation, I wish to say that if the honourable leader opposite desires to discuss further the question which he has just raised concerning unemployment insurance, he may do so on this bill.

Hon. Mr. Haig: I have not time to get the information that I want.

Hon. Mr. Robertson: Honourable senators, this is the interim supply bill, which is brought before the house about this time each year. Its passage would permit the government to finance the public service for

the coming fiscal year, until the estimates have been considered and a final supply bill has been passed.

If honourable senators will turn to the bill they will observe that its various sections cover the different percentages asked.

Section 2 of the bill would grant \$233,-837,011.33. This is one-sixth of the main estimates which have been laid before parliament, and is approximately two months' supply. It will be noted that if the sum asked is multiplied by six, the resulting figure will be approximately \$1 billion 500 million, which is less than the total supply required. I would point out to honourable senators that certain expenditures are statutory and are not voted specifically.

Section 3 of the bill would grant an additional sum of \$1,125,000. This is three-quarters of the items set forth in schedule "A" to this bill. Under the terms of union of Newfoundland and Canada certain unemployment insurance payments fall due in the first two months of the fiscal year ending March 31, 1951, and this sum is required to cover those payments.

Section 4 of the bill provides \$1,900,666.66, or one-third of the items listed in schedule "B". This additional amount is required because there will be other expenditures in these items during the early months of the coming fiscal year.

Section 5 of the bill would vote \$324,283.16, or one-sixth of the items listed in schedule "C". These items cover representation at foreign conferences and administration costs of the Senate and the House of Commons. Certain foreign conferences are to be held in the early months of this year, and this item would provide for Canadian representation. The main administrative costs of the Senate and the House of Commons are incurred when both houses are sitting during the first part of each year.

Section 6 would vote \$2,614,658.75, or one-twelfth of the items set out in schedule "D". This amount is required because expenditures under these items are heaviest in the spring months.

No part of this bill would vote the total amount of any item in the main estimates, and of course I give the usual undertaking that the passage of this bill will in no way prejudice the right of any honourable senator to discuss any item in the estimates when those estimates are before a committee of this house or the house itself.

Hon. Mr. Duff: That is satisfactory.

The motion was agreed to, and the bill was read the second time.