

Business of the House

and substance of the bill are similar to what was proposed when we were on the other side of the house, there is no objection on our part to the measure in its present form.

Mr. Regier: Mr. Chairman, in essence this group agrees with the statement that has been made by the hon. member for Laurier. However, in the past, especially in 1958, extensive use was made of governor general's warrants. I regret very much that after that time the Financial Administration Act was amended to grant even more discretion and authority to the government of Canada with regard to the possible use of governor general's warrants in order to carry on the business of government. I should like to ask the minister this question. If approval is given now to this interim supply measure, does he see any possible need to exercise the prerogative of the government of using governor general's warrants before parliament is again called?

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): The whole purpose of the present measure, Mr. Chairman, is to make provision for everything that we can foresee at this time, and unless something extraordinary should arise that we cannot now foresee the present bill should provide all the supply required to take us up to the month of October.

Mr. Hellyer: Mr. Chairman, this measure will authorize the expenditure of further vast sums for weapon systems and weapons which only have an atomic capacity or which, to use the Prime Minister's words, only reach their full capacity when armed with atomic warheads. It involves in addition, I presume, certain expenditures for housing at the Bomarc stations at North Bay and La Macaza. The statement of the Associate Minister of National Defence that these devices at La Macaza and North Bay would at best only be useful for something in the order of three years even if they were armed raises, of course, the logic of continuing these expenditures and the logic of parliament authorizing such expenditures at this time. Would the Prime Minister indicate to the committee whether the government has decided yet if it will or will not authorize the use of atomic warheads by Canadian troops?

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Chairman, the attitude of the government has been set out most clearly in this regard. There has been no change and there is no anticipated change.

Mr. Hellyer: Can we take it then that the further authorization of additional funds for the F-104 program in fact means that the

government intends that they will be used for the strike attack role when the squadrons are ready to go to Europe?

Mr. Diefenbaker: We have had very long discussions of that matter from time to time and there is nothing more I can add to my statement that there has been no change in our position whatsoever.

Motion agreed to.

Resolution reported and concurred in.

WAYS AND MEANS

The house in committee of ways and means, Mr. Martineau in the chair.

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton) moved:

Resolved, that towards making good the supply granted to Her Majesty on account of certain expenses of the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1963, the sum of \$1,704,710,347.93 be granted out of the consolidated revenue fund of Canada, as set forth in the resolution concurred in this day in committee of supply.

Motion agreed to.

Resolution reported and concurred in.

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton) thereupon moved for leave to introduce Bill No. C-90, for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money for the public service of the financial year ending the 31st March, 1963.

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

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

REQUEST TO PROCEED WITH PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Mr. Churchill: This completes government business, but we have on the order paper the following notation:

From five to six p.m.—private members' business—private bills (special order).

Perhaps the house would consent to dealing with these matters now, although it is not yet five o'clock.

Mr. Speaker: Does the house agree to proceeding now to private members' business?

Mr. Peters: No.

Mr. Speaker: I hear objection to this procedure, and without unanimous consent it is not possible.

Mr. Churchill: May I understand this lack of consent to the proposal? Is it that we take up these matters later? Can we not deal with them right now because time is running out and this parliament will soon cease to exist.