

ing to His Majesty certain sums of money for the public service of the financial year ending the 31st March, 1947.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first and second times and the house went into committee thereon, Mr. Golding in the chair.

On the preamble:

Mr. GRAYDON: It would be helpful if we had the bill.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN (Mr. Golding): Shall the preamble carry?

Mr. ROSS (St. Paul's): Where is the bill? Preamble agreed to.

On section 1—Short title.

Mr. ROSS (St. Paul's): I object to the title passing until we know what is in the bill.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN (Mr. Golding): This act may be cited as the Appropriation Act No. 2, 1946.

Section agreed to.

Section 2 agreed to.

On section 3:

Mr. ILSLEY: That is the section that has been deleted. Renumber section 4; make it section 3.

New section 3 and section 4 agreed to.

Bill reported.

Mr. ILSLEY moved the third reading of the bill.

Mr. ANGUS MacINNIS (Vancouver East): Before the bill is read a third time I should like to say a word in connection with it. We have passed a bill giving the government authority to expend a certain sum of money. We had some debate on whether or not we would allow the government to have that privilege. I doubt whether there is a member in this chamber who knows exactly what is in the bill just passed—I am certain that I do not. I doubt whether there is anyone who knows anything about it except the Clerk. He directed the chairman and the chairman read the sections in a tone of voice that could not be heard more than a few seats from where he was sitting. We should be more businesslike in putting these bills through the house if we are going to put as much emphasis on what we are to give the government authority to do as was indicated when the resolution was before us. As a matter of

fact anything could have gone into the bill and I doubt whether any hon. member would have been any the wiser.

Motion agreed to and bill read the third time and passed.

Mr. BENTLEY: On division; I do not know what it is all about.

Mr. SPEAKER: On division.

SUPPLY

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

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Administration service—

648. Departmental administration — further amount required, \$14,795.

Mr. MacNICOL: Would the minister tell us what this is all about?

Mr. ROSS (St. Paul's): I have a word to say. I did not get an answer as to when the budget was to be brought down.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Oh, oh.

Mr. ROSS (St. Paul's): Hon. members may laugh, but there are a lot of business men in this country who are not laughing. They want to know what is going on. What I want to know is when the budget is coming down. The business men of Canada want to know what they are going to have to provide for. Has the government any idea of what it is going to do, or is it still wandering along in the same foggy nebulous atmosphere? We want to know what is going to happen. Are we to have the budget early or not? How can business men carry on if they do not know what is to happen? How can you go on with your work if you are uncertain about what is to happen in the future? Unless a business man knows what is coming in regard to taxes, how is he to continue to carry on? We gave money to the government a little while ago; we are going to give it some more in a few months. As representatives of the people, before we vote this money we want to be assured that our rights will not be taken away from us so far as taxation is concerned.

Mr. NICHOLSON: The Minister of Agriculture is not in his seat. I have a question to ask about an item which I understood was to be in the supplementary estimates. It has to do with a grant to the Canadian Seed Growers Association. I have had some correspondence with farmers in my riding who were