

## THE SENATE

Friday, March 24, 1950

The Senate met at 3 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

### CRIMINAL CODE BILL

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE

**Hon. Mr. Farris** presented the report of the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce on Bill I, an Act to amend the Criminal Code.

*The report was read by the Clerk Assistant, as follows:*

The Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce, to whom was referred Bill I, an Act to amend the Criminal Code, have in obedience to the order of reference of March 21, 1950, examined the said bill, and now beg leave to report the same without any amendment.

#### THIRD READING

**Hon. Mr. Farris:** Honourable senators, I move that the bill be now read the third time.

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

### ELECTRICAL AND PHOTOMETRIC UNITS BILL

#### FIRST READING

**Hon. Mr. Robertson** presented Bill S-2, an Act respecting the units of electrical and photometric measure.

The bill was read the first time.

### NORTHWEST TERRITORIES POWER COMMISSION BILL

#### FIRST READING

**Hon. Mr. Robertson** presented Bill T-2, an Act to amend the Northwest Territories Power Commission Act.

The bill was read the first time.

### PRECIOUS METALS MARKING BILL

#### FIRST READING

**Hon. Mr. Robertson** presented Bill U-2, an Act to amend the Precious Metals Marking Act, 1946.

The bill was read the first time.

### APPROPRIATION BILL NO. 1

#### SECOND READING

**Hon. Wishart McL. Robertson** moved second reading of Bill 14, an Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the public service of the financial year ending the 31st March, 1950.

He said: Honourable senators, this bill and the one to follow, have to do with granting certain sums of money. Bill 14 concerns the supplementary estimates for the year ending March 31, 1950; and bill 15, which will be explained in due course, has to do with the granting of interim supply for the coming year.

I may say that because of circumstances which make it possible for various committees of this house to give consideration to the estimates and expenditures generally, I ask the house to consider bills of this nature with considerably less diffidence than in the past. I repeat what I have said before, that should the house see fit to vote the sums of money asked, this does not preclude any honourable senator from discussing at any time matters contained in either of these bills.

I point out to honourable senators that Bill 14 contemplates the voting of amounts of money in addition to what was originally voted—amounts which are now required because of various circumstances which could not have been foreseen. I shall not attempt to explain every item, but will endeavour to deal adequately with the larger items in the bill. As to the smaller items, should any honourable senator desire information which I am unable to supply, inquiry can be made before the appropriate standing committee.

The purpose of this bill is to provide \$65,986,459, the additional amount needed to finance the public service for the year ending March 31 next. A large part of this sum, namely \$46,523,350, would go to cover the deficits of the Canadian National Railways and Trans-Canada Air Lines. These deficits resulted from operations during the calendar year 1949. The other amounts referred to in the bill are to cover expenditures which could not be anticipated when the original estimates were prepared. In almost all cases certain contingencies have arisen during the year which could not be foreseen.

I refer first, honourable senators, to some of the larger items.

Vote No. 568, in the sum of \$1,225,000, is to recompense owners for animals slaughtered under the Animal Contagious Diseases Act. Under certain legislation passed at the last session of parliament, additional payments were authorized in certain cases.

Vote No. 570, in the sum of \$350,000, is to furnish the additional amount required to pay the subsidy on bacon shipments to Great Britain.

Vote No. 574, which amounts to \$402,000, relates to the Canadian Government's contribution to the International Refugee Organization. I am advised that, by reason of the contribution being payable in American funds,