

everything was not all right. I do not want to pass the estimates if there is any question about them. I will hold them over. It may mean that we will have to sit on Friday and Monday in order to get the estimates through, but I will have to ask the house to do that because I do not want honourable members to pass anything they do not want to pass. The only thing I can do is to ask the house to sit on Friday and perhaps on Monday in order to get the bill through. I will tell the Minister of Finance that I am held up, that objection has been taken and that I feel the objection is so serious that I would not dare to ask the members of the Senate to pass the estimates now. I will have to get whatever information I can, and in the meantime I would ask that the debate be adjourned until Thursday. If we did not get through by that time we would have to sit on Friday and perhaps on Monday. We could certainly clear them up by Monday.

Hon. W. M. Aseltine: Honourable senators, I would like to say a word on this very important question. I think the honourable senator from Churchill (Hon. Mr. Crerar) is quite correct in stating that supplementary estimates No. 2 are estimates filed by the new Government for the first time on October 15. They consist of several very large items. For instance, there is \$31.2 million to cover civil service salaries which were authorized after Parliament was dissolved last spring. Then there is an amount of \$8.1 million to take care of the deficit of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. Also there is \$8.8 million to take care of expenses in connection with maintenance of new immigrants, and so on. These are new supplementary estimates entirely.

Hon. Mr. Crerar: I am not quarreling with these items at all. There are a few items of interest here. I see one for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation of over \$8 million in addition to what they had before. I think that requires a little explanation.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: Honourable senators, as far as I am concerned, the information that I was seeking has been given, namely, that further supplementary estimates No. 2 were prepared by the present Government and tabled in the other house. Therefore, I am withdrawing any objection to this bill going through tonight.

Hon. Mr. Haig: Thank you very much.

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

THIRD READING NEXT SITTING

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the third time?

Hon. Mr. Haig: I move that the bill be placed on the Order Paper for third reading tomorrow.

Hon. Thomas Vien: Honourable senators, would it not be possible to refer this bill to committee for discussion tomorrow morning? It could be sent to either the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce or the Standing Committee on Finance, where the Minister of Finance or others might come and give us more detailed and clearer information about the items involved, which come to a substantial amount. I would suggest that the bill be referred to the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce for consideration tomorrow.

Hon. Mr. Haig: Honourable senators, if I may speak again I think I had better move that the bill be given third reading on Friday or next Monday, whichever suits the house. Let the civil servants wait. Apparently, the house does not want to support me. Honourable senators, I move that third reading be given to this bill on Friday next.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: Honourable senators, that does not dispose of the suggestion that the bill be referred to the Banking and Commerce Committee. I think that should be decided first. Although I should like to have further information on a number of these items, I might say that during the four years I have been in this house an interim supply bill has never yet been referred to any committee. One of the reasons for that is that to examine a bill like this one adequately clause by clause would take much more than one or two days of the time at our disposal. In that limited time we could scarcely deal fully with one item of one department. I do not think it is feasible for us to examine these estimates in that way. I feel it would be better if the estimates were considered—and I refer to all the estimates—by a committee of this house at its leisure, rather than that one committee should devote a morning to this bill. We could not get very much information in so short a time. Therefore, I think it would be preferable to follow the suggestion of the Leader of the Government and give the bill third reading tomorrow. We would then have an opportunity to peruse these estimates in the meantime, and to ask for any further particulars tomorrow.

May I also mention that I believe the main estimates were considered by our Standing Committee on Finance last session.

Hon. Mr. Golding: Not last session.