

ending March 31, 1948, the sum of \$101,822,866.77 be granted out of the consolidated revenue fund of Canada.

Motion agreed to.

Resolution reported, read the second time and concurred in. Mr. Abbott thereupon moved for leave to introduce Bill No. 204, for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the public service for the financial year ending March 31, 1948.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first and second times and the house went into committee thereon, Mr. Macdonald (Brantford City) in the chair.

Sections 1 and 2 agreed to.

On section 3—\$5,853,666.66 granted for 1947-48.

Mr. FLEMING: Are copies of the bill available?

The CHAIRMAN: This is an interim supply bill; I do not think it is customary to have copies.

Mr. ABBOTT: The bill is the same as bills passed in other years. Usually bills are not printed for distribution until after first reading. Since by unanimous consent this bill is being put through all stages this afternoon, it is not available for distribution. However, for those who are interested, it will be available later this afternoon.

Mr. CASE: I suggest that the chairman should read the sections. We are just sitting here like a bunch of dumb-bells.

Mr. ABBOTT: That is right; no misrepresentation.

The CHAIRMAN: Perhaps it would be sufficient if I were to read the short title. It states:

This act may be cited as the Appropriation Act, No. 3, 1947.

Section agreed to.

Section 4 agreed to.

Bill reported, read the third time and passed.

THE BUDGET

DEBATE ON ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE MINISTER OF FINANCE

The house resumed from Monday, May 12, consideration of the motion of Hon. Douglas Abbott (Minister of Finance) that Mr. Speaker do now leave the chair for the house to go into committee of ways and means, and the amendment thereto of Mr. Macdonnell (Muskoka-Ontario), and the amendment to the amendment of Mr. Coldwell.

[Mr. Abbott.]

Mr. J. R. MacNICOL (Davenport): Mr. Speaker, on several previous occasions when speaking to the budget resolutions I have made reference to the western provinces; on this occasion I am going to devote my remarks to that forgotten part of Canada, the maritime provinces. I listened with interest to the speeches already made by various maritime members, and like most other hon. members outside the maritimes I have been amazed to hear of the continued recession in that part of Canada and the mounting unemployment. On this occasion I am going to try to present some recommendations which if carried out I believe will reverse the downward trend of the maritimes economy and the increasing maritimes unemployment.

I make no apology for speaking about the maritime provinces. I was in business a long time and I have a clear recollection that during that time we shipped many trainloads of material made in Toronto to the maritime provinces. Last evening I figured the approximate number of carloads shipped from the plant with which I was so long connected to the maritime provinces. If I average that number at only 40 cars per year it means that in the 65 years of that plant's existence—I was with the company for 20 years—more than 2,000 carloads of boilers and radiators and heating equipment were shipped to the maritime provinces.

I feel I have an interest in anything that will improve conditions in the maritime provinces because that means more employment for the workers in my riding and for the workers in other ridings in central Canada. I never can bring myself to that position where I talk only about my own riding. My riding depends upon the extent to which Canada expands, and an improvement in the maritime provinces benefits not only my own riding but the other ridings in central Canada.

The recommendations which I am going to offer were compiled by myself during half a dozen exhaustive survey trips through the maritime provinces in as many years. The last trip was made in September of last year when from the time I left home to the time I arrived back I drove my car 2,964 miles. Over half of that mileage was spent in the Squatteck area mentioned previously by the hon. member for Temiscouata (Mr. Pouliot) when he was presenting a petition, and in connection with watershed problems in that area and throughout the maritime provinces.