

tended to Mrs. Smith and me on the occasion of our golden wedding anniversary, I should like to take this opportunity to express our deep appreciation of that demonstration of friendship and goodwill by honourable senators.

We had a wonderful time with our family and friends during the past few days, and your gracious gesture contributed greatly to the occasion. Thank you very much.

### GREY CUP TRAIN

#### DAMAGE TO COACHES BY FOOTBALL FANS

On the Orders of the Day:

**Hon. R. B. Horner:** Honourable senators, before the Orders of the Day are proceeded with, I should like to call attention to what took place in the special train from Ottawa to Toronto on the eve of the recent Grey Cup Game. Seats in the coaches were damaged and some windows were broken, and everything had the appearance of being torn to pieces.

I am wondering if that is an illustration of the culture of our two great races, about which we hear so much. If that is an example, where are we heading? People who, in other respects, are considered to be responsible persons, wrecked property of the railways which, in the case of the C.N.R. belongs to the people of Canada. Death might easily have occurred from this behaviour. I understand that broken glass covered the floors of the coaches. It was an exhibition of wilful destruction that is a bad example to the rest of the world. I think it is a sad state of affairs.

### THE ESTIMATES

#### REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE—DEBATE CONTINUED

The Senate resumed from Wednesday, November 25, the adjourned debate on the motion of Hon. Mr. Leonard for concurrence in the report of the Standing Committee on Finance on the estimates laid before Parliament for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1965.

**Hon. J. Campbell Haig:** Honourable senators, last Wednesday afternoon, November 25, when the honourable Senator Leonard presented the report of the Finance Committee for concurrence, I made a few preliminary remarks before moving the adjournment of the debate, indicating the great help and co-operation and assistance the chairman had given to the committee. I would also like to include in those remarks appreciation of the great help and assistance that the officials of the different departments gave to the committee, by giving of their knowledge and experience to us.

Introducing the report, the chairman indicated that it was divided into three main divisions, the first being paragraphs 1 to 15, referring to the different forms of estimates, programs, and so on; the second, a discussion of the recommendations of the Glassco Report, dealing with financial management control; and the third dealing with the estimates in general. This appears on page 1115 of Senate *Hansard* of November 25 last.

Honourable senators, I think the very important part of this report, which I would like to discuss for a moment, is paragraph 11, at page 1131, where it indicates that a long period of time elapses before the final vote of supply by Parliament and the actual spending of that amount, which means that the Government has spent or is committed to spend a very large part of the money before Parliament gives it approval.

I would suggest, as also indicated in the report and in the testimony of the committee, that this should, if possible, be corrected so that the estimates do not come in the final dying days of a session.

Of course, I realize that discussions of this kind in this chamber have not a great deal to do with Parliament, since the estimates must go before the other place first. It must be clearly understood that in all financial matters respecting the Government, the elected representatives of Parliament are the final arbiters of expenditures.

Realizing the fact that under our rules we proceed faster than the other place wants us to go, probably the Senate Finance Committee could assist Parliament in discussing estimates which are of a more routine nature, yet would not eliminate the right of elected members to make sure that they have full opportunity of questioning the Government on their spending program, to air grievances, or raise points which they feel affect their constituencies or ridings.

As was indicated by the Chairman of the Finance Committee, the committee learned a great deal about the actual management and financial control of the Government, and I think that its report will be of great use in future years.

I wish to draw the attention of honourable senators to page 1117 of Senate *Hansard*, where paragraph (e) of the report is mentioned. There the Chairman stated:

That departments and agencies be given the necessary financial authority and be held accountable for the effective management of the financial resources placed at their disposal.

The Chairman then added:

In essence, this means decentralization of financial responsibility.