

APPROPRIATION BILL NO. 3

THIRD READING

Hon. RAOUL DANDURAND moved the third reading of Bill 146, an Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the public service of the financial year ending the 31st March, 1940.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: Might I ask if this is the last Bill dealing with supply? I earnestly hope so. I hope it is not lèse majesté on the part of a senator even to mention anything about a money bill. For fear it is, I sit down.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Oh, oh.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I find my right honourable friend has a great respect for the authority of representatives of the people called the Commons.

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

ADJOURNMENT—BANKING AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: Honourable members, in obedience to the will of the Senate, I suggest that the Committee on Banking and Commerce meet immediately after we suspend our sitting.

I move that the Senate adjourn to resume at the call of the Chair.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

The sitting of the Senate was resumed.

CENTRAL MORTGAGE BANK BILL

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

Hon. CHARLES E. TANNER: Honourable members, the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce, to whom was again referred Bill 132, an Act to incorporate the Central Mortgage Bank, have in obedience to the order of reference of the third of June, 1939, further examined the said Bill, and now beg leave to report the same without any further amendment.

THIRD READING

The Hon. the SPEAKER: The question, honourable members, is now on the third reading of the Bill. Is it your pleasure to adopt the motion for the third reading?

Right Hon. ARTHUR MEIGHEN: Honourable members, as all present will recall, this House by a majority vote directed that the Bill, as submitted for third reading just

a few moments ago, be referred back to the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce, with instructions to amend it in such a way as to achieve a definite, specified result. The Banking and Commerce Committee, on which, unfortunately, there was little more than a quorum, decided to defy this House; and, I am sorry to say, the leader of the House concurred in such defiance, evidently taking the ground that the House does not control its own proceedings and that they may be controlled by a committee. Consequently the committee ignored the instructions given to it, and, despite the vote of four members in respect of each specific amendment, reported the Bill unamended.

That leaves me only one option. I cannot come to the exercise of that option without expressing regret that the leader of the House, or indeed any other member of the committee, should have chosen to defy the will of the Senate of Canada. The committee is a creature of the Senate, and whatever may have been the opinions of individual members, its manifest duty was to carry out the instructions of this House.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: I am therefore in such a position that I must move—

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I am not quite sure that my right honourable friend has a right to move. The right honourable gentleman has exhausted his right to move any amendment.

Right Hon. Mr. MEIGHEN: I moved an amendment, which was carried. The Bill is now before us for third reading. I am not confined to one amendment. I move:

That the Bill be not now read a third time, but be amended as follows:

By deleting—

(a) Page 5: lines 29 to 37, inclusive.

(b) Page 6: lines 37 to 51, inclusive.

(c) Page 7: the words "and non-farm homes in Canada" as they appear in lines 2 and 3; the word "provided" in line 11; all of lines 12 to 17, inclusive, and the words "and non-farm homes in Canada" in line 20.

(d) Page 11: the words "or non-farm homes in Canada" in lines 21 and 22; the words "and non-farm homes in Canada" in line 28; the words "provided, however, that a" in line 34, and all of lines 35 to 39, inclusive.

(e) Page 13: all of lines 35 to 50, inclusive.

(f) Page 14: all of lines 1 to 12, inclusive.

(g) Page 16: all of lines 25 to 27, inclusive.

I shall hand in the amendment which I have just moved, the effect of which is to do precisely what the Senate has already decided ought to be done, and no more.