

the same practice with respect to these bills as is adopted as a general rule with regard to private bills, the standing order being that:

All private bills reported to the house by any committee may, on one motion be referred together to a committee of the whole house and such committee may consider and report one or more such bills at the same sitting.

That will help to expedite the matter.

Mr. LAWSON: Are they printed?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Three are printed and the fourth is on the way to the house.

Motion agreed to.

EXCISE ACT, 1934

The house in committee on Bill No. 7, to amend the Excise Act, 1934—Mr. Ilsley—Mr. Sanderson in the chair.

Bill reported, read the third time and passed.

CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT

The house in committee on Bill No. 6, to amend the Customs Tariff—Mr. Ilsley—Mr. Sanderson in the chair.

Bill reported, read the third time and passed.

SPECIAL WAR REVENUE ACT

The house in committee on Bill No. 8, to amend the Special War Revenue Act—Mr. Ilsley—Mr. Sanderson in the chair.

Bill reported, read the third time and passed.

INCOME WAR TAX ACT

The house in committee on Bill No. 9, to amend the Income War Tax Act—Mr. Ilsley—Mr. Sanderson in the chair.

Sections 1 and 2 agreed to.

On section 3—War surtax 20 per cent.

Mr. LAWSON: I have not before me the Income War Tax Act. May I ask which of these schedules relate to rates payable by non-resident owned investment corporations?

Mr. ILSLEY: My information is that they do not.

Mr. LAWSON: These amendments do not affect non-resident owned investments?

Mr. ILSLEY: No.

Mr. CAHAN: The wording of this amendment is clear on its face; but not having the original act before us, one finds some diffi-

[Mr. Mackenzie King.]

culty in grasping the connection. In working out the percentage, is there an increase of one-fifth in percentages, or will the income tax be computed as in the previous year and one-fifth added?

Mr. ILSLEY: The latter is the case. This is a surtax on the income tax. It is an increase of the income tax, made up as before, by 20 per cent. Is there any ambiguity?

Mr. CAHAN: In computing that, the amount of the tax will be reckoned as in the previous year and one-fifth of the tax of the previous year will be added as surtax?

Mr. ILSLEY: Yes, that is correct.

Section agreed to.

Sections 4 to 7 inclusive agreed to.

Bill reported, read the third time and passed.

MUNITIONS AND SUPPLY

MEASURE AUTHORIZING ESTABLISHMENT OF DEPARTMENT TO MOBILIZE AND CONTROL RESOURCES, MUNITIONS AND ESSENTIAL SUPPLIES

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister) moved the second reading of Bill No. 5, respecting a Department of Munitions and Supply.

He said: I had the permission of the house to present the resolution at an earlier stage without debate and to have the bill introduced and read the first time. When that permission was granted, I indicated that I would make a statement on the second reading of the bill with respect to its purpose and provisions.

The bill before the house intitled "An act respecting a Department of Munitions and Supply," is intended to give the government the necessary authority to set up a department of munitions and supply. In the United Kingdom during the last war, as hon. members are aware, it proved necessary, in order to meet the unprecedented demands for munitions and other supplies, to set up a separate ministry of munitions.

Mr. Lloyd George, in his Memoirs, makes some very significant observations which bear directly on the proposal being made by the government. In a speech at Manchester, while organizing the Ministry of Munitions, he had this to say of its purpose:

We want to mobilize in such a way as to produce in the shortest space of time the greatest quantity of the best and most efficient war material. That means victory; it means a great saving of national strength and resources, for it shortens the war; it means an enormous saving of life.