

C190166

Memorandum for the Prime Minister.

re Governor General's Warrants.

I have consulted the Department of Finance. After going back in their records until 1920, they find that there were only two periods when Governor General's Warrants were used to finance the administration generally, as opposed to the use of Warrants for specific unforeseen purposes.

The first period ran from July 1, 1926, until December 9, 1926, when the new Parliament assembled. In this case, interim supply was voted up to June 30, but when Mr. Meighen's government was formed, he found it impossible to get supply and was obliged to use Warrants until the election. After the election, the Imperial Conference came and it appears that your government also used Warrants throughout that period, until Parliament reassembled on your return from London.

In 1940, Warrants were required from the close of the fiscal year (March 31) until the new Parliament reassembled on May 16.

Attached is certain relevant information.

J.W.B.

1st February, 1945.