

appropriations asked for have received the approval of the Crown. I do not see why we should not follow that practice here.

Certain rules having been suspended:

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED moved the second reading of the Bill. He said:

The object of this Bill is to vote supplies to the amount of \$32,195,441.17, being 25 per cent of the main Estimates passed by the House of Commons during the present session for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1918. It will therefore be apparent to honourable gentlemen that the total Estimates for the year amount to \$128,781,764.70. Of this amount \$107,668,214.70 is chargeable to Consolidated Fund, while the balance, \$21,113,550, is chargeable to Capital Account.

I may say that the total estimated expenditure for the year 1917-18, as shown in the main Estimates, amounts to \$203,472,765.94. Of this amount \$182,359,215.94 is chargeable to Consolidated Fund and \$21,113,550 to Capital Account.

The estimated expenditure on account of Consolidated Fund, of which \$74,691,001.24 is statutory, has been greatly increased in consequence of the heavy charge for interest on Public Debt and Pensions; but for other services the Estimates now presented will be found to be materially reduced from those of the previous year. The reduction will represent no less a sum than \$67,542,779.

Hon. Mr. BELCOURT: What departments do these cover principally?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: I cannot give that information to my honourable friend with any exactitude. Practically all public works have been cut off, as well as absolutely unnecessary expenditure.

Schedule B of this Bill is composed of the Supplementary Estimates for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 1917, amounting to \$9,127,777.42. Of this amount \$8,378,697.43 is chargeable to Consolidated Fund, \$680,220 is chargeable to Capital, and \$68,859.99 consists of unprovided items for 1915-16. Of this estimated expenditure \$6,375,000 is a further amount required for the working expenses of Government railways, and \$1,200,000 is a further sum required for the purchase of seed grain under Governor General's warrants.

In further answer to my honourable friend from Ottawa I may say that the Estimates for 1918 would give him the information which he seeks; but to analyse those closely would occupy too much time at present.

The main reduction has been in public works.

Hon. Mr. BELCOURT: The difficulty is that we do not know which of these Estimates have been voted by Parliament.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Parliament has voted 25 per cent of the main Estimates, entirely irrespective of the uncontrollable expenditure, payable by statute, which, as I have said, represents no less a sum than \$74,691,000.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: This has nothing to do with war expenditure?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: No. I shall be prepared to explain that later.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY: I suppose the motion which we have adopted, suspending the rules of the House, gives me the opportunity of making a few remarks on this money Bill. The Senate has no power to make any change in this Bill; we must accept it or reject it as a whole; but I think it my duty to call the attention of the House to a certain item which I have noticed. Last year the Senate did not choose to vote the salary of a certain officer in the Library. In the dying hours of the session I called the attention of the honourable leader of the Opposition to the matter, but nothing was done. Let me recall the facts. A few days before Parliament met last year, an Order in Council was passed appointing a man of the name of Aubry as curator of the Library. This man had passed the legal age for appointment; but he was nominated, and a recommendation was placed in my hands, which I refused to sign, because he was over age and because he was not recommended by the two Librarians. In such cases there should be a joint report of the Librarians, and upon that the Speakers of the two Houses make their recommendations. All this was done with the exception that the recommendations were missing. The Order in Council was passed a few days before the Session began, and the law provides that it must afterwards be approved by both Houses. The recommendation was brought here, and the Order in Council was laid upon the table. That Order in Council was approved of by this House, but without the recommendation of the Speaker. The Auditor General refused to pay this man because he was not recommended according to the law, and because he was beyond the age limit. He was nominated against both the letter and the spirit