

THE SENATE

Friday, July 4, 1952

The Senate met at 11 a.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

BUSINESS OF THE SENATE

Hon. Mr. Hugessen: Honourable senators, the latest information which I have been able to obtain is that the House of Commons is continuing its consideration of the estimates, in the hope of being able to complete them early this afternoon and put through the necessary Appropriation Bill, which will then come before us. The members in the other place have been sitting since 10 o'clock this morning, and they have agreed to carry on their discussions through the lunch hour in an attempt to conclude their business.

Under these circumstances, perhaps the best suggestion I can make to the house is that we should now adjourn during pleasure to reassemble at the call of the bell, in the hope and expectation that we shall be called between 2 and 3 o'clock this afternoon, although of course I am unable to give any guarantee to that effect. I would ask honourable senators to be kind enough to remain in the immediate neighbourhood of this building so that they will be able to hear the bell when it summons us to reassemble.

I move that the Senate adjourn during pleasure, to reassemble at the call of the bell.

The motion was agreed to.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

The sitting was resumed.

THE ROYAL ASSENT

The Hon. the Speaker informed the Senate that he had received a communication from the Secretary to the Governor General acquainting him that the Honourable Patrick Kerwin, a Judge of the Supreme Court of Canada, acting as Deputy of His Excellency the Governor General, would proceed to the Senate Chamber today at 4.45 p.m., for the purpose of giving Royal Assent to certain bills.

APPROPRIATION BILL No. 4

FIRST READING

A message was received from the House of Commons with Bill 394, an Act for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money for

the public service of the financial year ending the 31st March, 1953.

The bill was read the first time.

SECOND READING

Hon. A. K. Hugessen moved the second reading of the bill.

He said: Honourable senators, this is the financial bill which comes to us at the end of each session, and although it was passed by the other place only a few minutes ago, copies are available on the Table for any honourable senator who desires to examine the bill.

I should explain that this is the fourth Appropriation Bill which this house has been called upon to pass this session, and it is the third which provides for moneys necessary to meet the expenses of the public service of the financial year ending March 31, 1953. The bill, of course, is based upon the estimates for the current financial year, which have been in the hands of the members of this house for some months now, and which have been the subject of considerable and detailed discussion and investigation by the Finance Committee of this chamber. Honourable senators will therefore be aware of their general purport.

The total asked for by the present bill is \$2,446,317,110.60. This amount is made up of the balance of \$2,363,584,922.60 of the main estimates which remains unappropriated at the present time, together with an additional amount of \$82,732,188 provided in the supplementary estimates which were tabled in the other place on June 23rd, copies of which were received by all honourable senators some few days ago.

The bill is in the same form as similar bills in the past, except for the following deletions from section 4 of the bill:

First of all authority for the Governor in Council to pay and redeem treasury bills and deposit certificates. That authority is not now necessary under this bill, because it is given by section 43 of the Financial Administration Act.

The second change is the deletion of the reference to a loan being a charge upon and payable out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund. That also is now covered under the Financial Administration Act, and there is no need to have that reference appearing in this bill.

I will now explain the bill in very short detail.

Section 1 is the short title.

Section 2 provides for the balance of the main estimates, after deducting the amounts