

## SECOND READING.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED moved the second reading of the Bill.

He said: Honourable gentlemen will probably remember that a short time ago a commission was appointed to examine into the administration of public printing and stationery. An elaborate report was drawn up making various suggestions as to the desirability of reorganizing the Public Printing Bureau; and this Bill is to some extent the outcome of that report.

It is proposed that the Public Printing and Stationery Department shall be reorganized as provided in the Bill. The duty of purchasing supplies is now performed by no less than three officials. It is proposed that, until a Public Purchasing Commission is duly appointed, all those duties shall vest in one particular officer who shall be the Superintendent of Supplies.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: I would suggest to my honourable friend that we go into committee on the Bill so that we may be better able to consider it, as it does not involve a question of principle.

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

## CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

On motion of Hon. Sir James Lougheed, the Senate went into committee on the Bill. Hon. Mr. Thompson in the Chair.

On section 1—additional officer authorized:

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: Will this Superintendent of Supplies come under the classification of the Civil Service Commission?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Yes, I understand so. I understand that this Bill has been prepared by the Civil Service Commission with a view to conforming it to the Bill which we have recently passed.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: Does my honourable friend know what salary he is going to receive?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: No, I cannot tell.

Hon. W. B. ROSS: It will be \$8,000 anyway.

Section 1 was agreed to.

On section 2—section relating to purchasing materials repealed:

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: What is the section that is repealed?

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Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED (reading):

The Superintendent of Printing shall, with the approval of the minister, purchase such material required for printing, electrotyping, stereotyping, lithographing, binding and other work of a like nature, except paper, as is necessary for the service of the Parliament and the several departments of the Government.

2. All such purchases shall be made upon requisitions duly approved by the minister or as he directs, and payment therefor shall be made after audit by the accountant.

It will be observed that in subsequent sections of the Bill it is provided that the duties shall fall upon the Superintendent of Supplies pending the appointment of a Purchasing Commission. When that Purchasing Commission is appointed all those duties will vest in that commission.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: In that case this is only a temporary measure.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Yes.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: And the position of Superintendent of Supplies will be abolished after the Purchasing Commission is appointed. We have had during the war a War Purchasing Commission.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Yes.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: That, I suppose, is defunct now?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: It is still acting. A Bill to continue that commission was before Parliament last session. I do not know whether it was introduced again this session or not. The intention of the Government is to proceed with the appointment of a Purchasing Commission. I have no doubt that we shall have that Bill next session.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: Can my honourable friend give the House any information as to the success of the War Purchasing Commission? Has it on the whole been a success?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Yes, I should say it has been unqualifiedly successful.

Section 2 was agreed to.

On section 3—Superintendent of Stationery to have charge of custody and supply of stationery:

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: Can my honourable friend tell us what we are repealing there?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Yes. Subsection 1 of section 22 is repealed, which reads as follows:

The Superintendent of Stationery shall, under the direction of the minister, have charge of the purchase and supply of all printing and other