

SECOND READING

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON moved the second reading of the bill.

He said: Honourable senators, I think I should make a brief statement with reference to this bill. The total expenditure under the main estimates, together with the two supplementary appropriations, is \$2,199,049,353.74. Of this sum, statutory items amount to \$932,429,733.18, leaving a balance of \$1,266,619,620.56. It will be recalled that the appropriation bills numbered 1, 2, 3 and 4 which already have been passed, aggregated \$390,307,633.68, so that there remains a total amount under main and supplementary estimates of \$876,311,986.88. This amount is made up of, first, the balance of the main and first supplementary estimates of \$761,322,767.72, and further supplementary estimates of \$114,989,219.16.

I would point out to honourable members that the statutory items, which it is not necessary to vote, include carrying charges on the public debt, statutory outlays such as family allowances and other provisions in respect of the Department of National Health and Welfare, and items such as indemnities and salaries for judges.

I might also point out that, while the total expenditures of over \$2,000 million are mainly on current account, they include items of approximately \$82,000,000 under soldiers' settlement plans, and are of a capital, not of a current, nature.

The general position in respect to expenditures and revenues as indicated by the Minister of Finance in the House of Commons is, that his original estimate of revenues for the current year was in the vicinity of two billion, 450 million, before allowing for the tax reductions which were subsequently made. The estimate of expenditures at that time was about two billion 100 million dollars, which would have left a prospective surplus of 350 million. As a result of tax reductions equivalent to 160 million, the estimated surplus is reduced to 190 million dollars. Should all the provinces come in under the contemplated plan, that 190 million dollars would be reduced by approximately 110 million, which would leave a balance of 80 million. It is anticipated, however, despite the increase of approximately 114 million dollars under the supplementary estimates, that as a result of savings in the main estimates, and possibly some savings in the supplementary estimates, the general financial situation as far as the estimates are concerned will not be materially changed.

Hon. G. V. WHITE: Honourable senators, the figures just mentioned by the honourable leader of the government (Hon. Mr.

Robertson) are of such magnitude that it is hardly within my power to grasp them. As at this stage of the session no useful purpose can be served by a prolonged discussion on this important measure, we on this side of the house are prepared to facilitate the passage of this bill through its various stages.

Some Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

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

THIRD READING

The Hon. the SPEAKER: When shall this bill be read the third time?

Hon. Mr. ROBERTSON: With leave of the Senate, now.

The motion was agreed to, and the bill was read the third time, and passed.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT

THE ROYAL ASSENT—SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

The Honourable Patrick Kerwin, the Deputy of the Governor General, having come and being seated at the foot of the Throne, and the House of Commons having been summoned, and being come with their Speaker, the Honourable the Deputy of the Governor General was pleased to give the Royal Assent to the following bills:

- An Act for the relief of Charles Gordon Nelson.
- An Act for the relief of Pamela MacKay Alderdice Johnstone.
- An Act for the relief of Lilly Evans Auty.
- An Act for the relief of Esther Lancit Weiss.
- An Act for the relief of Bruce Montgomery Cooper.
- An Act for the relief of Marion Naomi Gomery McGee.
- An Act for the relief of Margaret Hazel Reid Koppel.
- An Act for the relief of James Alexander King.
- An Act for the relief of Proctor Clifford Neil.
- An Act for the relief of Elizabeth Anne Eden Lindsay.
- An Act for the relief of Ernest Edward Joslin.
- An Act for the relief of Jessie Alberta Allan Derby.
- An Act for the relief of Dorothy May Duff Hisey.
- An Act for the relief of Elizabeth McIntosh Barber.
- An Act for the relief of Muriel Lucy Brighton Burdon.
- An Act for the relief of Constance Mae Ponman Newman.
- An Act for the relief of Florence Alice Mapston Calcutt Doak.
- An Act for the relief of Rose Housefield Blumstein.
- An Act for the relief of Gertrude Loiseau Gaulin.