

Interim Supply

ending 31st March, 1967, laid before the House of Commons at the present session of Parliament, except Items for Citizenship and Immigration, Defence Production, Forestry, Industry, Legislation, National Revenue, Post Office, Privy Council and Veterans Affairs, already provided for in Appropriation Act No. 6, 1966, and except Agriculture Item 35, Atomic Energy Item 5, Dominion Bureau of Statistics Item 10, Finance Item 15, Mines and Technical Surveys Items 40 and 70, Transport Item 103, and Loans, Investments and Advances Items L40, L75 and L80, for which no proportion is granted—\$309,794,765.50;

(b) an additional three-twelfths of the total amount of Public Works Item 65 (Schedule A) of the said Main Estimates—\$4,600,000.00;

(c) an additional two-twelfths of the total amounts of National Defence Item 35, Northern Affairs and National Resources Item 20 (Schedule B) of the said Main Estimates—\$3,175,900.00;

(d) an additional one-twelfth of the total amount of Loans, Investments and Advances Item L30 (Schedule C) of the said Main Estimates—\$9,166,666.67;

(e) one-twelfth of the total of all of the Items set forth in the Supplementary Estimates (a) for the fiscal year ending 31st March, 1967, laid before the House of Commons at the present session of Parliament, except Agriculture Item 35a, Defence Production Item 20a, Finance Item 4a, Mines and Technical Surveys Item 40a and Transport Items 102a and 103a, for which no proportion is granted—\$26,276,101.92;

(f) an additional three-twelfths of the total amounts of External Affairs Item 35a and Loans, Investments and Advances Item L22a (Schedule D) of the said Supplementary Estimates—\$11,304,250.00;

(g) an additional two-twelfths of the total amount of Secretary of State Item 40a (Schedule E) of the said Supplementary Estimates—\$713,266.67;

(h) an additional one-twelfth of the total amounts of Finance Item 15a and Loans, Investments and Advances Item L40a (Schedule F) of the said Supplementary Estimates—\$4,716,666.67;

(i) one-twelfth of the total amount of all the Items set forth in the Supplementary Estimates (B) for the fiscal year ending 31st March, 1967, laid before the House of Commons at the present session of Parliament, except Loans, Investments and Advances Item L32b, for which no proportion is granted—\$2,252,250.00,

be granted to Her Majesty on account of the fiscal year ending 31st March, 1967.

Mr. Lambert: Mr. Chairman, the very few minutes that were left at my disposal on Thursday evening did not really permit me to get started on the most remarkable—and I underline the word “remarkable”—speech of the Prime Minister. I say it was remarkable. First of all, it disclosed a most extraordinary performance by this government in respect of supply and the traditional right of parliament to control supply.

This is something that my colleagues will take up after we have heard from the Minister of National Revenue and President of the Treasury Board. I trust he will give us a

[Mr. Speaker.]

complete, detailed explanation of just what happened in this regard.

Having regard to the other part of the Prime Minister's statement, which I find remarkable, the facts I have received do not bear out the propositions he put forward about discussions on the question of integration and unification. I refer particularly to the discussion of unification by the committee on national defence. A lot of the information given created a completely false picture in so far as the activities and the opportunities of that committee are concerned, having in mind the feeling of the Minister of National Defence in this regard.

We have also noted the smokescreen created by the Minister of National Revenue and the Minister of National Defence, who have suggested that our present attitude was carefully adopted because we were holding an annual meeting. There is no more truth in that suggestion than there would be in the suggestion that all the propaganda with regard to medicare was staged for the benefit of those Liberal cohorts who were here in large numbers three or four weeks ago. As a matter of fact, as far as I am concerned, the opposition to the government's stand on this matter was as valid this past week as it would have been two months ago and as it would be two months from now. This whole question involves a matter of principle. The Prime Minister cannot deny that opposition to this move, starting some eight or nine days ago, was actually voiced some time before the minister tabled the bill. The minister told us last June that no decision had been reached with regard to this whole proposal.

Let me develop the sequence of events to show what a completely false picture was presented to us the other night when the Prime Minister said, as recorded at page 9824 of *Hansard* for November 10:

The fact is that the evidence shows that in 1964-65—and this has already been put on record in *Hansard*—the defence committee met 36 times after the white paper had been made public and called 41 witnesses. In 1966 it met 15 times and called 34 witnesses including serving officers, retired officers and civilians. The minister and the associate minister appeared before the committee to discuss the white paper and to be interrogated on the question of integration leading to unification 63 times. There were 2,300 pages of testimony taken.

At that time, the ranks of docile cattle broke in to applaud. In 1964 and 1965 there were 36 meetings. Four of these meetings dealt with Bill No. C-90 to amend the National Defence Act, which involved the question of providing one defence chief.