

the Governor General by such members of this house as are members of the Honourable the Privy Council.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: Honourable senators, I understand that the Address has received approval in the House of Commons and that that house is now in committee of supply and may dispose of its business this evening. I would therefore suggest that this chamber now rise, to reassemble at 9.30 this evening, or earlier at the call of the bell.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

At 8.00 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

APPROPRIATION BILL No. 7

FIRST READING

A message was received from the House of Commons with Bill 2, an Act for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money for the public service of the financial year ending the 31st March, 1956.

The bill was read the first time.

SECOND READING

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the second time?

Hon. W. Ross Macdonald: Honourable senators, I move the second reading now.

This bill provides for the payment of the sum of one million dollars.

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: Have copies of the bill been distributed?

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: No; the bill has just come from the Commons and it is impossible to have it printed and distributed this evening.

As far as I know, thus far no bill of this kind has been based entirely on the contents of a Speech from the Throne. Honourable senators will recall that the Speech referred to two matters only: one, the setting up of a police force under the United Nations; the other, provision for the grant of a sum of money for Hungarian relief. The present bill deals with both these matters: it is to provide one million dollars for Hungarian relief. I do not know whether on a previous occasion I explained how that sum will be spent.

Hon. Mr. Haig: You did not.

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: I intended to ask about that before the honourable Leader of the Government (Hon. Mr. Macdonald) resumed his seat.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: I might answer it now.

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: I was going to ask the honourable Leader of the Government to tell us what form this grant of one million dollars is to take. Is it to be in the form of a grant of wheat, or of flour? I should like to see some wheat sent over. Will the provision be of goods or of money? And how is it to be distributed? What agency will handle it? Will the honourable gentleman give us the fullest particulars he can in regard to these matters?

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: I think that is a fair question and I will try to answer it as completely as I can.

If I recall correctly, when the honourable Leader of the Opposition spoke on the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne he referred to a grant of \$200,000. In so stating it he was correct. That is the amount which was originally mentioned, but it was never the intention that there should be no more. It was made up of two definite sums of \$100,000; and the arrangement which we hope to carry out is to remit \$100,000 in cash to the International Red Cross, which is already operating inside Hungary, and \$100,000 to the United Nations Commissioner for Refugees. The remaining \$800,000 may be paid in cash or may be in the form of supplies. A definite decision in that respect has not yet been reached. Probably distribution will be made as recommended to the Government by the Secretary of State for External Affairs when the situation has been more completely studied.

Hon. Mr. Horner: Will some of this million dollars be expended to advance fares to refugees, or will such advances be apart from the present million dollar grant?

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: I doubt very much whether any of the million dollars will be used for advancing fares to refugees. That is not the intention. The Department of Citizenship and Immigration has funds for that purpose. It is expected that a large portion of this money will go for the alleviation of suffering among the refugees who are already outside Hungary, living in emergency refugee camps in Austria.

I think I should emphasize the fact that any money which eventually will be administered or used for relief purposes within the borders of Hungary will not be handed over to the Hungarian Government or to any of its agencies, but will be carefully administered by the International Red Cross, which, as I have said, is already operating within Hungary itself. I mention that because during the debate it was suggested, I think by the