

Interim Supply

for Great Britain to charge an additional 15 per cent duty on imports, the Bank of Canada should not divulge to that committee the amount of the loan granted to Great Britain and the rate of interest charged?

[Text]

Hon. Walter L. Gordon (Minister of Finance): In reply to the first question, Mr. Speaker, I think if interim supply were passed in reasonable time we could see that the electricity bills are paid. Even if we cannot "see" they are, we would take steps to undertake that they are paid on time. With regard to the second question, Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that the two matters are quite unrelated.

[Translation]

Mr. Grégoire: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Finance. Following the announcement to the effect that the Bank of Canada had granted a loan to Great Britain at a low rate of interest, did some Canadian provinces apply to the Bank of Canada for similar loans?

[Text]

Mr. Gordon: I wish to correct the preamble to that question, Mr. Speaker. I said nothing about a small rate of interest. I said I was not prepared to disclose the rate of interest but that it approximated the market rates. The answer to my hon. friend's question is no.

SUPPLY

The house in committee of supply, Mr. Lamoureux in the chair.

INTERIM SUPPLY

Resolved, that a sum not exceeding \$740,710,974.77, being the aggregate of

(a) two twelfths of that total of all of the items to be voted in the main estimates for the fiscal year ending 31st March, 1965, as reduced, except finance item 15, mines and technical surveys item 25, national research council item 10, and transport items 15 and 25 for which the proportion is one twelfth and atomic energy item 5, external affairs item 20, forestry item 25 and legislation item 20 for which no proportion is being released, \$651,829,576.84;

(b) an additional two twelfths of the amount of public works item 70 (schedule A), of the said main estimates, \$666,666.67;

(c) an additional one twelfth of the amount of fisheries items 5 and 10, legislation item 5, mines and technical surveys item 70, post office item 1 and public works item 40 (schedule B), of the said main estimates, \$20,263,800.00;

(d) two twelfths of all of the items to be voted in the supplementary estimates (A), laid before the House of Commons at the present session of parliament, except national defence item 56a, and loans,

[Mr. Grégoire.]

investments and advances items L12a, L17a and L37a for which no proportion is being released, \$20,612,522.50;

(e) an additional two twelfths of the amount of transport item 103a (schedule C), of the said supplementary estimates (A), \$872,966.67;

(f) nine twelfths of the total of the items to be voted in the supplementary estimates (B), laid before the House of Commons at the present session of parliament, \$46,215,108.75;

(g) two twelfths of the amount of transport item 103b (schedule D), of the said supplementary estimates (B), \$250,333.34;

be granted to Her Majesty on account of the fiscal year ending 31st March, 1965.

Mr. Rhéaume: Mr. Chairman, at five o'clock on Friday I was briefly pointing out to the committee the undesirable situation in which the Yukon and Northwest Territories find themselves at present by not having full representation in parliament. I had made the point that although for the first time since 1962 the Canadian northland had members of parliament, the situation had not yet been corrected in terms of representation in the other place. I had made the point that at the present time there are in excess of 40,000 Canadian citizens living north of the 60th parallel, yet neither the Yukon nor the Northwest Territories had been allowed representation in the other place. I believe I made the point that even though there may be historical reasons, a province such as Prince Edward Island with a population of 107,000 had four senatorial representatives in parliament. It seems to me that the political development of our northern areas warrants this move.

One need only think back to last year, when we had legislation in this chamber intended to divide the Northwest Territories into two separate parts. Presumably that was going to be a step in the political evolution of that area. As another example of just how unsure of itself this government is, I point out that that proposed legislation was sent to a committee, and we have heard nothing about it since. Nor has the government reintroduced that measure.

Mr. Chairman, I mention these facts because I intend to give notice that at the time the formula for repatriating the constitution is brought before the house I will expect the government to have some sort of plan ready along the lines I have mentioned. It seems to me this would be the logical course of development, not only in terms of the political evolution of the Northwest Territories but also to ensure that all Canada is fully represented in parliament. This can