

Interim Supply Bill

I understand the statement to which my hon. friend refers is a report which was presented to the Secretary of State of the United States, for his consideration, by an advisory committee on atomic energy. The proposals in this report, to judge from the summary which has appeared in the press, are of great interest and importance. So far as I am aware they have not been adopted as the policy of the government of the United States, and the Canadian government was not consulted by the committee which prepared the report. Until the full text of the report has been received and studied in Ottawa, it would be inappropriate for me to say anything more about the proposals contained in it.

RADIO BROADCASTING

APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER OF MOOSE JAW STATION TO CROWN COMPANY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. M. J. COLDWELL (Rosetown-Biggar): I should like to ask a question of the Minister of Reconstruction concerning a matter which I believe still remains under his jurisdiction. Has a decision been reached with regard to the application made on January 28, 1946, to the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation for the transfer of radio station CHAB, Moose Jaw, to a crown company established by the province of Saskatchewan?

Hon. C. D. HOWE (Minister of Reconstruction): The application referred to was duly received, and involves an important matter of government policy. It is now receiving the attention of the government, but no decision has been arrived at.

Mr. COLDWELL: May we expect an early decision?

Mr. HOWE: I hope so.

NATIONAL DEFENCE

QUESTION AS TO SETTING UP OF SENIOR ADVISORY COUNCIL

On the orders of the day:

Mr. F. E. LENNARD (Wentworth): I should like to ask a question of the Minister of National Defence. Has the minister considered the setting up of a senior advisory council for defence, similar to the one set up recently by the President of the United States?

Hon. DOUGLAS ABBOTT (Minister of National Defence): The minister will consider anything. However, I have not had notice of the question; I shall take the matter into consideration.

[Mr. Mackenzie King.]

CANADIAN ARMY

RATES OF PAY FOR PERMANENT FORCE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. JAMES SINCLAIR (Vancouver North): I should like to ask a question of the Minister of National Defence. At the last session he promised that before March 31 he would announce the rates of pay for members of the permanent force. Is he in a position to do that to-day?

Hon. DOUGLAS ABBOTT (Minister of National Defence): I thank my hon. friend for his question, and would say that a statement was issued to the press to-day. A special committee set up to inquire into rates of pay has completed its report. It has been under consideration by treasury board. It was found necessary to refer the matter back to the committee for clarification in certain respects, and it may be a few days before the report is available in its final form. I therefore can state, as I have in the press statement issued to-day, that it may not be possible for me to make that announcement before April 15. I should hope it might be sooner, but I have given myself just that little extra time.

SUPPLY

Right Hon. J. L. ILSLEY (Minister of Finance) moved that the house go into committee of supply.

Motion agreed to and the house went into committee of supply, Mr. Golding in the chair.

INTERIM SUPPLY BILL

Mr. ILSLEY moved:

Resolved, that a sum not exceeding \$273,197,945.73, being one-sixth of the amount of each of the several items to be voted, as set forth in the estimates for the fiscal year ending 31st March, 1947, and \$3,333,333.33 being an additional one-sixth of certain items of the said estimates, laid before the House of Commons at the present session of parliament, be granted to His Majesty on account for the fiscal year ending 31st March, 1947.

He said: In this resolution the government is asking for an amount equal to one-sixth of the estimates. It would be impossible of course for the estimates as a whole to be voted within two months. Meantime moneys will be required to meet obligations of the government, and it was thought reasonable to ask for two months' supply.

I am afraid that the seasonal character of some of these commitments makes it improbable that one-sixth will be sufficient for two