

amount of \$9,635,679.50. Honourable senators recall that on April 1 this year we passed an interim supply bill providing one-twelfth of the total amount of the supplementary estimates, so with the passage of this bill we shall have provided supply to the extent of seven-twelfths of the supplementary estimates. That will take us up till the end of October.

There is also an amount to cover additional proportions of four special items in the supplementary estimates to provide for services of a seasonal nature. The reason for this is, as I said in connection with the main estimates, that certain departments have heavier expenditures during the summer than later on in the year. This amount is \$224,500.01.

Provision is also made in this bill for various proportions of the items to be voted in the further supplementary estimates to provide for payments which are expected to fall due during the first seven months of the year, that is, two-sevenths for family allowances which become effective September 1; four-ninths for pensions and related items, namely veterans' pensions, war veterans' allowances, etc., and two-thirds for payments under the Maritime Freight Rates Act. The amount for these items in the bill is \$38,555,555.56. The total of the various amounts I have mentioned is \$1,714,109,433.08.

In addition, the bill would authorize the Governor in Council to borrow during 1957-58 a sum not in excess of \$1 billion, by the issue and sale of securities, such as treasury bills, Canada Savings Bonds and other bonds. Authority to raise money by such means is given in supply bills every year. From 1952-53 through 1954-55 authority to borrow up to \$500 million was granted annually. In 1955-56 the limit was raised to \$1 billion, and in 1956-57 it was raised to \$1.5 billion. The increase over the past few years results mainly from increased sales of Canada Savings Bonds. The amount of \$1 billion requested in this bill is required to meet the issue of Canada Savings Bonds prior to October 1, 1957, and other normal operations. Honourable senators may be interested to know that the Canada Savings Bonds issued in 1956 totalled approximately \$800 million.

The amount being voted by this bill—the general proportion of one-half of all items plus the additional proportions for certain special items—is intended to provide all necessary requirements of the public service during the period from the end of this month to the end of October, that is, from May to October inclusive. April requirements, as I have already mentioned, were provided for

in the bill which was assented to on April 1. In no instance is the total amount of any item being released.

I can assure honourable senators that the form of the bill is the same as that of similar bills passed in previous years. The passing of this bill will not prejudice the rights and privileges of members to criticize any item in the estimates when they come up for consideration in this house. The usual undertaking is hereby given that such rights and privileges will be respected and will not be curtailed or restricted in any way as a result of the passing of this bill.

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

THIRD READING

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

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: I move the third reading now.

Hon. Mr. Isnor: I should like to ask the honourable Leader of the Government (Hon. Mr. Macdonald) whether, if this bill is passed, Parliament will reassemble before further moneys can be voted.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: By the passing of this bill sufficient moneys will have been provided, according to the estimates which have been filed, to carry on the government until the end of October.

Hon. Mr. Isnor: Does that mean that Parliament will reassemble in October, before further moneys need to be granted?

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: At the moment I would not presume to speak for the Government after June 10.

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

APPROPRIATION BILL No. 5

FIRST READING

A message was received from the House of Commons with Bill 419, an Act for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money for the public service of the financial year ending 31st March, 1958.

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: I move the second reading now.

Honourable senators, the estimates of the Post Office Department have been passed by the House of Commons. This bill will