

regardless of party. What I am saying is as true of members of the parties opposed to the government as it is true of members on the government side.

I have already said that so far as the indemnity of members of this present parliament is concerned I think we have all been only too glad during the period of the war to have been able to make whatever in the way of financial sacrifice we could, realizing that it is small or as nothing compared with the sacrifices that are being made by those who are fighting the battles of our country at the front. But we shall hope that the war will be over before another parliament assembles. There will be great problems to be faced, much greater than the people of this country begin to realize, by the parliaments of the future. The problems from now on are not going to be local or mainly domestic problems. They are going to be increasingly world problems, and Canada is going to have a very difficult time indeed in doing its part to help solve these problems. We shall require in parliament all the experience that we can have that is of value from the past. We shall need to have here the best representation that we can get of the men and women who are prepared to present themselves as candidates. And so, in the next parliament, should I continue to be a member of this House of Commons, I shall be glad to join with hon. members of the House of Commons who feel the same way in recommending to the government of the day, whether I am a member of it or should be sitting opposite, that the indemnity of four thousand dollars should be regarded as a payment made by the country to enable members of parliament to be free from pecuniary embarrassment and to be perfectly independent in the discharge of their duties here, and I will advocate that. If I should not be in parliament but spared to speak my mind, I shall be only too happy to support from without on this matter any administration that will recommend the exemption of the indemnity from taxation as a means of helping to maintain the independence of members and the independence of parliament itself in the next parliament.

SUPPLY—CONCURRENCE

Hon. J. L. ILSLEY (Minister of Finance) moved:

That the reports of the committee of supply made to the house on February 18; March 3, 6, 17; June 28, 30; July 14, 18, 20, 21, 24, 25, 28; August 3, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, less amounts voted in interim supply, be now received, read a second time and concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

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WAYS AND MEANS

INTERIM SUPPLY

Hon. J. L. ILSLEY (Minister of Finance) moved that the house go into committee of ways and means.

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

Mr. ILSLEY moved:

Resolved, that towards making good the supply granted to His Majesty on account of certain expenses of the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1945, the sums of \$161,199,849.17 and \$21,459,077.59 respectively be granted out of the consolidated revenue fund of Canada.

Motion agreed to.

Resolution reported and concurred in. Mr. ILSLEY thereupon moved for leave to introduce bill No. 186, for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the public service for the financial year ending the 31st March, 1945.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first and second times, considered in committee, reported, read the third time and passed.

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN PROVINCIAL PREMIERS AND DOMINION GOVERNMENT TABLED— STATEMENT OF PRIME MINISTER

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, with the consent of the house I should like to move that we revert to motions in order that I may table some correspondence related to the dominion-provincial conference and to make a statement in reference thereto.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I beg leave to table correspondence that has taken place between premiers of provinces of Canada and the dominion government with respect to the dominion-provincial conference. Some of this correspondence was tabled, I believe, on March 31 and I am herewith tabling the remainder.

Before the house adjourns, I should like to make a statement regarding the proposed dominion-provincial conference.

It was our hope that the conference might be held about Easter, but this was rendered impossible by the sessions of the provincial legislatures, and our inability, therefore, to arrange a date that would be generally acceptable. The inability to fix a satisfactory date was increased by successive provincial elections in Saskatchewan, Quebec, Alberta and New Brunswick. The wisdom of not calling