

On motion of Senator Flynn, bill referred to Senate Standing Committee on Banking, Trade and Commerce.

[English]

EMERGENCIES BILL

CONSIDERATION IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE CONTINUED

Leave having been given to revert to Order No. 3:

The Senate again in Committee of the Whole on the Bill C-77, An Act to authorize the taking of special temporary measures to ensure safety and security during national emergencies and to amend other Acts in consequence thereof.

The Senate was accordingly adjourned during pleasure and put into a Committee of the Whole on the Bill C-77, to authorize the taking of special temporary measures to ensure safety and security during national emergencies and to amend other Acts in consequence thereof, the Honourable Gildas L. Molgat in the Chair.

Senator Phillips: Honourable senators, I move, seconded by Senator Petten,

That the following Senators be appointed to serve on the Steering Committee of the Committee of the Whole on the Bill C-77, An Act to authorize the taking of special temporary measures to ensure safety and security during national emergencies and to amend other Acts in consequence thereof, namely, the Honourable Senators Asselin, Cochrane, Frith, Hébert, Kelly, Marsden, Molgat and Stewart (*Antigonish-Guysborough*).

● (1440)

The Chairman: Is it agreed, honourable senators?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

The Chairman: Although there is no chairman at the moment for the steering committee, would it be agreeable, honourable senators, that the committee meet when the Senate rises on Tuesday next, or at our next sitting?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

Senator Doody: Mr. Chairman, I move that the committee adjourn, report progress, and ask for leave to sit again.

The Chairman: Is it agreed, honourable senators?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

The Hon. the Speaker pro tempore: Honourable senators, the sitting of the Senate is resumed.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Hon. Gildas L. Molgat: Honourable senators, the Committee of the Whole, to which was referred the Bill C-77, to authorize the taking of special temporary measures to ensure safety and security during national emergencies and to amend

[The Hon. the Speaker.]

other Acts in consequence thereof, reports progress and asks for leave to sit again.

The Hon. the Speaker pro tempore: Is leave granted, honourable senators?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

The Hon. the Speaker pro tempore: Honourable senators, when shall this committee have leave to sit again?

Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government) moved that the Committee of the Whole be given authority to sit again at the next sitting of the Senate.

Motion agreed to.

STANDING RULES AND ORDERS

TENTH REPORT OF COMMITTEE ADOPTED

The Senate proceeded to consideration of the tenth report of the Standing Committee on Standing Rules and Orders presented on Tuesday, May 31, 1988.

Hon. Gildas L. Molgat: Honourable senators, this report deals with a change to the rule respecting the Standing Committee on Internal Economy, Budgets and Administration. This matter arose out of a letter by the Honourable Senator Doody pointing out some difficulties in the wording of the old rule. The committee studied the matter carefully. The problem was that there could be a misunderstanding on the part of certain people that under the old rule the committee might not require the approval of the Senate itself for its measures, because rule 67(1)(g) simply said:

... and to report the result of such consideration to the Senate.

It could be deemed that that meant that if the committee reported, then it was deemed that their action had been approved. The feeling was that there should be proper approval by the Senate, as there is for every other committee of the Senate, and that the final decision on anything must be taken by the Senate itself.

Having studied this problem, the committee proposes the new wording which is in this report, which eliminates completely that matter of reporting and simply states what the committee can do. Then, because of that common rule that no committee can make any final decision without the approval of the Senate, the decisions of that committee will automatically require the approval of the Senate.

● (1450)

So that is how the rule reads presently.

After discussion in the Rules Committee it was agreed that we should send the rule to the Internal Economy Committee itself to make sure there was no disagreement on their part and that they understood what it was the Rules Committee was trying to do. This matter was discussed in the Internal Economy Committee and passed unanimously. Therefore, I recommend the rule to the Senate and move the adoption of the report.