

if the sponsor of the bill would assure us that the formula for annual adjustment of salaries is the same as that used for the salaries of members of Parliament. If not, how is any difference in the formula to be explained?

Senator Nurgitz: Honourable senators, I shall undertake to make that inquiry. Since I have until tomorrow in any event, because Senator Hastings wishes to speak to the matter, I will attempt to get the answers to that question and Senator MacDonald's question. I do not have to make a long-distance call—I will call Her Excellency and check on the tennis courts, the cricket pitch and Senator MacDonald's ability to bring whomever he wishes to functions at Rideau Hall.

Hon. Roméo LeBlanc: Honourable senators, if I may, I will ask a question of the sponsor of the bill. It need not be answered immediately. I would be happy to have the information tomorrow.

What provisions are made for the Governor General's pension? I know that in the past, with the appointment of people of relatively modest means, those issues were not properly addressed. But I think that it should be when we consider that someone serving in that position does so over a fairly limited tenure, be it five or a few more years. I would be interested to know if the pension plan is in any way comparable, for example, to that of the federally appointed judges in this country, which is a generally rewarding system.

Senator Nurgitz: Honourable senators, I will look into that, together with the question by Senator Stewart, and I hope to have an answer tomorrow.

Senator Hastings: I have one further question, honourable senators. Would Senator Nurgitz ascertain whether we provide Her Excellency the Governor General with secretarial or support services during the period of her retirement?

Senator Nurgitz: I remind honourable senators that I was handed this bill while walking into the chamber today.

Senator Hastings: You did very well.

Senator Nurgitz: Someone said, "This will be quite simple."

Senator Frith: Look out!

Senator Nurgitz: I will undertake to try to get as much of that information as I can.

On motion of Senator Hastings, debate adjourned.

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

FIFTH REPORT OF COMMITTEE ADOPTED

The Senate proceeded to consideration of the fifth report of the Standing Senate Committee on Transport and Communications (Stephenville Inquiry), presented on Tuesday, December 19, 1989.

Hon. Finlay MacDonald: Honourable senators, I move the adoption of this report.

Motion agreed to and report adopted.

[Senator Stewart.]

[Translation]

INTERNAL ECONOMY, BUDGETS AND ADMINISTRATION

THIRTY-FIRST REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ADOPTED

The Senate proceeded to consideration of the Thirty-first Report of the Standing Committee on Internal Economy, Budgets and Administration (administrative policies on taxi and purchasing services), presented to the Senate on December 19, 1989.—(*Honourable Senator LeBlanc, P.C. (Beauséjour)*).

Hon. Senator Roméo LeBlanc: Honourable senators, I move that the thirty-first report of the Standing Committee on Internal Economy, Budgets and Administration be now adopted.

Motion agreed to and report adopted.

[English]

SOCIAL AFFAIRS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

TENTH REPORT OF COMMITTEE ADOPTED

The Senate proceeded to consideration of the tenth report of the Standing Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology (extension of date of final report re study on child poverty), presented on Tuesday, December 19, 1989.

Hon. Lorna Marsden: Honourable senators, before moving the adoption of this report, perhaps I could say that it was always the intention of the Standing Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology to examine the question of child poverty at more than one stage. Senator Robertson was the person who spearheaded this study some time ago. This week we tabled our interim report and we are asking you now to give us time to complete the next stage of our study, in which we bring forward recommendations for the alleviation of this problem.

Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government): Does Senator Marsden want me to take the adjournment of the debate in the name of Senator Robertson or will she let this one go through?

Senator Marsden: Honourable senators, I believe that Senator Robertson has nothing further to say at this time.

I move the adoption of this report.

Motion agreed to and report adopted.

● (1610)

STANDING RULES AND ORDERS

SECOND REPORT OF COMMITTEE ADOPTED

On the Order:

Resuming the debate on the motion of the Honourable Senator Molgat, seconded by the Honourable Senator Corbin, for the adoption of the Second Report of the Standing Committee on Standing Rules and Orders (Standing Committee on Aboriginal Peoples), presented in the Senate on 12th December, 1989.—(*Honourable Senator Watt*).