

Committee Reports

May I conclude by saying that I suggest that tampering with the democratic process such as this fully warrants Mr. Picard's immediate dismissal from office.

• (1510)

Mr. Speaker: If there are no other hon. members who wish to participate in the discussion, I might indicate to the hon. member for Leeds (Mr. Cossitt) who had given the Chair notice of the problem which he has now exposed in more detail, that ordinarily it would be my intention to reserve judgment on the matter for some time. However, in fairness I must indicate that as a general proposition nothing that anyone says about the conduct or performance, the speech or contribution of any hon. member could in general terms be taken as an interference with his right to speak or to operate as a member of the House of Commons. Indeed, far from restricting what the hon. member has to say about the corporation, its president or its officers, the events have stimulated the hon. member to making further comments.

In other words, rather than reserving my ruling, my decision is that I do not see—nor, with respect, do I expect the hon. member sees—that his privileges as a member of the House of Commons, his right to appear here and to participate fully as an active member of the House, his right to speak and to express his opinions, have in any way been interfered with. Nor do I see that his rights would be interfered with by any commentary, editorial writer, speaker, television president or otherwise throughout the country. No member is subject to such intimidation, and certainly it does not seem to me that the hon. member has been intimidated in theory or in fact. Therefore, I do not consider that a question of privilege is involved.

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[Translation]

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

HEALTH, WELFARE AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Seventh report of Standing Committee on Health, Welfare and Social Affairs, in both official languages.—Mr. Isabelle.

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FINANCE, TRADE AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Sixth report of Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs, in both official languages.—Mr. Kaplan.

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NATIONAL RESOURCES AND PUBLIC WORKS

Fifth report of Standing Committee on National Resources and Public Works, in both official languages.—Mr. Ethier.

[Mr. Cossitt.]

(Editor's Note: For text of above reports, see today's Votes and Proceedings.)

[English]

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FINANCE

TABLING OF PRESS COMMUNIQUÉS OF INTERNATIONAL MONETARY SYSTEM, WORLD BANK AND IMF ON TRANSFER OF REAL RESOURCES TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 41(2), I would like to table two copies, in both official languages, of the press communiqué of the interim committee of the board of governors of the international monetary system, and the press communiqué of the joint ministerial committee of the boards of governors of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund on the transfer of real resources to developing countries.

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CRIMINAL CODE

AMENDMENT TO PREVENT SUBSTITUTION BY APPEAL COURT OF CONVICTION FOR JURY VERDICT OF NOT GUILTY

Mr. Stuart Leggatt (New Westminster) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-394, to amend the Criminal Code.

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Leggatt: Mr. Speaker, the bill in question has been on the order paper since June 10. It proposes an amendment to section 613 of the Criminal Code and would prevent the substitution by an appeal court of a conviction for a jury verdict of not guilty. The power to order a new trial where the Crown shows that a substantial error of law has occurred at a jury trial is a sufficient assurance that criminal justice will be administered according to law. The purpose of the bill is to prevent the administration of justice in Canada from coming into disrepute, and to protect the traditional democratic right to trial by jury of our peers which is a heritage of western society.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: 1,590, 2,476, 2,590, 2,598 and 2,621.