

THE SENATE

Wednesday, June 11, 1958

The Senate met at 3 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers.

PRIVATE BILL

BURRARD INLET TUNNEL AND BRIDGE COMPANY—FIRST READING

Hon. Stanley S. McKeen presented Bill S-4, respecting The Burrard Inlet Tunnel and Bridge Company.

Some Hon. Senators: Explain.

Hon. Mr. McKeen: The purpose of this bill is this. The directors of The Burrard Inlet Tunnel and Bridge Company are not empowered to pay directors' fees. They are rectifying this. In the past the company has not been making any money but now it is in a position where it can do so and it is paying dividends to municipalities. It is asking leave to pay directors' fees, and that is the only purpose of this bill.

Bill read first time.

SECOND READING

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

Hon. Mr. McKeen: Next sitting.

FIRST CLERK ASSISTANT

REPORT OF COMMITTEE RECOMMENDING APPOINTMENT OF MR. ALCIDE PAQUETTE

Hon. William R. Brunt, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Internal Economy and Contingent Accounts, presented the second report of the committee.

The report was read by the Clerk as follows:

Your committee recommend that Mr. Alcide Paquette be appointed First Clerk Assistant, Senate, and paid a salary of \$10,500 per annum effective June 16, 1958.

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, when shall this report be taken into consideration?

Hon. Mr. Brunt: Next sitting.

DESTRUCTION OF DOCUMENTS

NOTICE OF INQUIRY

Hon. Jean-François Pouliot: Honourable senators, referring again to the matter which I brought up yesterday may I give notice of the following questions?

1. Is there a "Public Records Committee"?
2. On whose recommendation, at what date and how was it established?
3. What for?

4. Does it consist of representatives of various government departments?

5. If so, who are they, and to what department does each one belong?

6. Are their duties on the Public Records Committee a full time job?

7. Is operation "Sausage Mill" one of the duties of that committee?

8. If so, what is the meaning of the words "Operation Sausage Mill"?

9. What is the purpose of "Operation Sausage Mill"?

10. Are there any other operations with a name of meat, or any other name, within the scope of the Public Records Committee and what is their purpose?

11. Is it true that one of the duties of the Public Records Committee is "to check, examine and destroy" ninety per cent of 62 miles of shelving and 325,000 document boxes containing millions of separate documents?

12. Who will decide whether each one of those millions of separate documents has any historical or departmental value?

13. With regard to Mr. A. M. Whillins, who is in charge of the Public Works incinerator at Tunney's Pasture, Mr. W. W. Bilsland, the head of the disposal section, and Mr. D. W. Shadd, who is in charge of the reference section, wherefrom does each one come, and what are the qualifications and duties of each one?

14. Who will decide whether the ninety per cent of the documents, without any historical or departmental value, will be burned in the Public Works incinerator or will go to the junk man?

15. Who has already established a proportion of ten per cent of millions of separate documents with any historical or departmental value and of ninety per cent of millions of other separate documents without any historical value and how and when was it done?

16. Is the Canadian Government following the precedent of the United States Government, which made an operation similar to "Sausage Mill"?

17. Until now, how many of those documents have been (a) preserved for having a departmental or historical value (b) incinerated or (c) sold to the junk man?

18. Is it the intention of the Government to give back to the Provinces the thousands of bound volumes containing records of the old Department of the Interior, "many of which date back to Confederation and include early land grants, mining rights, etc."?

That matter is of great importance owing to the mining rights in the Prairie Provinces and in the other provinces too.

DIVORCE BILLS

FIRST READINGS

Hon. Arthur W. Roebuck, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Divorce, presented the following bills:

Bill SD-65, for the relief of Charles Coorsh.

Bill SD-66, for the relief of Claire Aubin Daunais.

Bill SD-67, for the relief of Maurice Gardner Swaine.

Bill SD-68, for the relief of William Arthur Terry.

Bill SD-69, for the relief of Frances Eileen Fisher Baker.