THE SENATE

Thursday, June 26, 1969

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

Prayers.

APPROPRIATION BILL NO. 3, 1969

FIRST READING

The Hon. the Speaker informed the Senate that a message had been received from the House of Commons with Bill C-210, for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money for the public service for the financial year ending 31st March, 1970.

Bill read first time.

Hon. Leopold Langlois moved, with leave of the Senate, that the bill be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading later this day.

Motion agreed to.

DOCUMENT TABLED

Hon. Paul Martin tabled:

Report of Canadian Overseas Telecommunication Corporation, including its Accounts and Financial Statements certified by the Auditor General, for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1969, pursuant to sections 22 and 23(1) of the Canadian Overseas Telecommunication Act, chapter 42, and sections 85(3) and 87(3) of the Financial Administration Act, chapter 116, R.S.C., 1952. (English and French texts).

TELESAT CANADA BILL

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

Hon. Gunnar S. Thorvaldson, Chairman of the Standing Senate Committee on Transport and Communications, reported that the committee had considered Bill C-184, to establish a Canadian corporation for telecommunication by satellite, and had directed that the bill be reported without amendment.

THIRD READING

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

Hon. Mr. Langlois: Honourable senators, with leave of the Senate, I move that the bill be read the third time now.

Motion agreed to and bill read third time and passed.

DIVORCE

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE ADOPTED

Hon. Arthur W. Roebuck, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Divorce, presented the committee's reports Nos. 748 to 751, inclusive, and moved, with leave of the Senate, that the said reports be taken into consideration now.

He said: Honourable senators, with your indulgence, I should like to have these reports adopted now. In this connection may I make a report which I think everyone in the chamber will be pleased to hear? At six o'clock last evening our Divorce Commissioner, the honourable Charles A. Cameron, Q.C., heard the last of the cases that are to be tried, so far as we know now, under the provisions of the recent bill on divorce which left to us the cleaning-up of the docket.

Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Roebuck: It has taken us almost a year to do so.

There are seven cases, some of them dismissals, which have been tried but have not been reported or have gone through the usual bookkeeping routine. These cases will of necessity be held over until the fall. There will be no more trials, so far as we know, but there will be some cases to present to the chamber when we return towards the end of September next.

In this connection, I wish to pay tribute to our Senate Divorce Commissioner, the Honourable Mr. Cameron. He is of retiring age, as you know, but he has devoted himself to this work with an industry and devotion which merits our attention. He has worked very hard and very successfully. He is a jurist of high standing. His work is meticulously careful. Since Mr. Justice Walsh ceased to be Commissioner and commenced his work in the Exchequer Court, the Honourable Mr. Cameron has been in charge, and the task of completing the work has been much more difficult and much more voluminous than we thought in the early stages. He has devoted himself to it with remarkable industry and, I think, has worked harder than his health should have permitted.

Honourable Mr. Cameron has not made all the reports, by any means. He has heard the last case, unless something occurs, which I do not now anticipate. So, all that will remain of