

*Excise Tax Act*

**Mr. Argue:** I think I will send out another one, because it is getting so much attention.

**PUBLIC ACCOUNTS**

REFERENCE TO COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS  
AND AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT

**Hon. Howard C. Green (Minister of Public Works)** moved:

That public accounts, volumes I and II, and the report of the Auditor General of Canada for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1957, be referred to the standing committee on public accounts.

Motion agreed to.

(Translation):

**HOUSE OF COMMONS**

REQUEST FOR BILINGUAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS  
ON ORDER PAPER

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Guy Rouleau (Dollard):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to put a question to the Secretary of State (Mr. Courtemanche).

To a question I had put on the order paper, the answer I received from the Minister of Defence Production (Mr. O'Hurley) was in English only. Can the Secretary of State tell the house if he is in a position to intervene with his colleagues so that regard may be had for the bilingual character of this country and that, accordingly, answers to our questions may be obtained in the two official languages of this country?

(Text):

**EXCISE TAX ACT**

**Hon. Donald M. Fleming (Minister of Finance)** moved the second reading of Bill No. C-44, to amend the Excise Tax Act.

**Mr. Hubert Badanai (Fort William):** Mr. Speaker, because of the fact that this bill does not meet with the approval of what I believe is the overwhelming majority of the Canadian people who fully expected the elimination of the excise tax on automobiles, I therefore move:

That this bill be not read a second time until further consideration has been given to the repeal or reduction of the excise tax on motor cars.

And now, Mr. Speaker,—

**Mr. Fleming (Eglinton):** Order.

**Mr. Chevrier:** You do not run the house.

**Mr. Fleming (Eglinton):** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order may I ask, if my hon. friend has given the house the text of the amendment, that it be read, because I wish to make a submission to you to the effect that the amendment is not in order.

**Mr. Badanai:** With your permission, Mr. Speaker, I wish to say just a few words. I

[Mr. Churchill.]

do not wish to take the time of the house unduly.

**Mr. Speaker:** I take it that the hon. member is speaking on the principle of the bill on second reading?

**Mr. Badanai:** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** I have no power to direct that any amendments be filed.

**Mr. Fleming (Eglinton):** I understood that my hon. friend had just read an amendment he was offering to the house. I believe he just read the text to you.

**Mr. Speaker:** I am sorry; did the hon. member propose an amendment?

**Mr. Badanai:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I have just read it and a copy has been sent to the Chair.

**Mr. Speaker:** It has been moved by the hon. member for Fort William (Mr. Badanai):

That this bill be not read a second time until further consideration has been given to the repeal or reduction of the excise tax on motor cars.

**Mr. Fleming (Eglinton):** Mr. Speaker, now that the amendment is before the house I submit to you that it is not in order. It has no relevance to the bill or to the principle of the bill. What is now before the house for debate on second reading is the principle of the bill. The principle of this bill is to amend the Excise Tax Act by certain designated amendments in accordance with the resolutions which were reported to the house by the committee of ways and means and approved by the house. There is not a word in this bill that relates to the excise tax on motor vehicles.

It is a well established principle that the opening of an act by an amending bill opens it only to the extent of the amendments proposed and only as to those clauses of the main act which the amending bill proposes specifically to amend. My hon. friend is now proposing to go completely outside the terms of the bill and introduce a subject that is foreign to the bill. In my respectful submission the amendment is out of order.

There is, of course, the further point directly associated with the principle of the bill. The amendment has no relevance whatever to the principle of the bill.

There is also the third point that an attempt was made in the committee of ways and means to introduce a similar amendment, in other words to amend the resolutions that were put before the committee of the whole in the ordinary course arising out of the budget resolutions, and that attempted amendment was ruled out of order in the committee of the whole by the chairman. This is an attempt to repeat the same tactic