

privilege and rights, and it would not be workable; but, we managed to make it work. We made it work through a careful system of regulations administered by good civil servants.

I do not think that is the way one would approach the problem today. One would approach it today by setting relatively reasonable standards by which one would define need. That standard would have to be flexible, because people who have less need more, and until that standard is reached, it would be a sliding scale.

How do administer it? The income tax system would probably be a good way to do it. However, I do not see any difficulty between using the income tax system to administer the system that I am describing and the income tax system which is a clawback, which is what we do in many respects right now.

The question of administration does not go to the heart of the matter. The question of administration is something we can all solve if we put our minds to do it. We have solved it before, and I do not regard it as an obstacle.

On motion of Senator Robertson, debate adjourned.

[Translation]

ROYAL ASSENT

NOTICE

The Hon. the Speaker *pro tempore* informed the Senate that the following communication had been received:

RIDEAU HALL

February 28, 1992

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the Honourable Peter Cory, Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Canada, in his capacity as Deputy Governor General, will proceed to the Senate Chamber today, February 28, 1992, at 1.00 p.m., for the purpose of giving Royal Assent to certain bills.

Yours sincerely,

Judith A. LaRoque
Secretary to the Governor General

The Honourable
The Speaker of the Senate
Ottawa

[English]

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

FOURTH REPORT OF COMMITTEE ADOPTED

Leave having been given to revert to Reports of Committees:
On the Order:

Consideration of the Fourth Report of the Standing Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs (Budget—North

[Senator Roblin.]

American Free Trade Agreement), presented in the Senate on 27th, February, 1992.

Hon John B. Stewart: Honourable senators, the budget of the Standing Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs was presented yesterday, and it appears in the *Minutes of the Proceedings of the Senate* from yesterday at pages 573 to 574. I would move that the report be now adopted.

The Hon. the Speaker pro tempore: Is it your pleasure, honourable senators, to adopt the motion?

Motion agreed to and report adopted.

[Translation]

PRIVATE BILL

ROYAL SOCIETY OF CANADA—BILL TO AMEND ACT TO INCORPORATE—SECOND READING—DEBATE ADJOURNED

Hon. Claude Castonguay moved the second reading of Bill S-7, An Act to amend An Act to incorporate the Royal Society of Canada.

He said: Honourable senators, I am pleased to speak on this bill before us today, the purpose of which is make some changes to the Act of Incorporation of the Royal Society of Canada.

The Royal Society of Canada is the national academy; its purpose is to contribute to the development of knowledge and research in the arts, letters and sciences. It was founded in 1882 by the Governor General of Canada, the Right Honourable Marquis of Lorne, and incorporated by Act of Parliament in 1883.

● (1150)

[English]

At the time the formation of a body devoted to fostering science and scholarship was advocated by Sir William Dawson, Principal of McGill University and first president of the society, and the Honourable P.J.O. Chaveau, former Premier of Quebec and the society's second president. They wished to improve the situation of active scholars and researchers who were widely dispersed across Canada and had little contact with each other.

A number of far-reaching decisions were taken by the founders as they considered the best form for the new organization. Of primary importance was the decision of the Marquis of Lorne that the society include the full range of scholarships with sections for literature, history and the arts, as well as science, following in this respect the French model of L'Institut de France rather than the English model of the Royal Society of London. The adopted structure has allowed the society to reflect the Canadian identity by incorporating members from all parts of the country, as well as to adopt smoothly to the growth of scholarship over time.

[Translation]

According to the objectives assigned to it from the start, the Society is now organized into three academies: the *Académie des lettres et des sciences humaines*, the Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences, and the Academy of Sciences/*Acadé-*