

No. 4

JOURNALS

OF THE

HOUSE OF COMMONS

OF CANADA

OTTAWA, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1972

11.00 o'clock a.m.

PRAYERS

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton), a Member of the Queen's Privy Council, laid upon the Table,—Notice of Ways and Means Motion to amend the Income Tax Act. (English and French).—Sessional Paper No. 284-1/308.

A point of order having been raised by the honourable Member for Calgary North (Mr. Woolliams) to the effect that certain documents having been quoted by the Honourable the Solicitor General, those documents should be laid upon the Table of the House;

RULING BY MR. SPEAKER

Mr. SPEAKER: I think the argument put forward by the honourable Member for Calgary North is valid. The rule is clear enough. If a document is quoted in debate it has to be Tabled. It was suggested by the President of the Privy Council that perhaps we are not dealing here with what is termed a State document. This has always been the difficulty in the past—to determine what is a public document and what is a private document. My thought is that if a letter, even though it might have been written originally as a private letter, becomes part of the record of a department it becomes at that point a public document and a State paper. It seems to me that the docu-

ments to which the Minister has referred are part of the official penitentiary files, or documents within the possession of the officials of the department, and I would think that any document of this kind which is cited by the Minister ought to be tabled in the House.

The House resumed debate on the motion of Mr. Whicher, seconded by Mr. Lajoie,—That the following Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General of Canada:

To His Excellency the Right Honourable Roland Michener, Chancellor and Principal Companion of the Order of Canada upon whom has been conferred the Canadian Forces' Decoration, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

We, Her Majesty's most loyal and dutiful subjects, the House of Commons of Canada, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Excellency for the gracious Speech which Your Excellency has addressed to both Houses of Parliament.