

# THE SENATE

Wednesday, June 23, 1971

The Senate met at 11 a.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers.

## DOCUMENTS TABLED

**Hon. Paul Martin** tabled:

Report of the Textile and Clothing Board, dated January 28, 1971, on an inquiry respecting Cotton and Polyester/Cotton Yarns undertaken at the request of the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, together with copies of a news release thereon.

Report on the administration of the Canadian Forces Superannuation Account for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1971, pursuant to section 26 of the Canadian Forces Superannuation Act, chapter 21, Statutes of Canada, 1959.

Statement by the Department of National Defence of Moneys received and disbursed in the Special Account (Replacement of Materiel), for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1971, pursuant to section 11(4) of the National Defence Act, chapter 184, R.S.C., 1952.

Report on the administration of the Regular Forces Death Benefit Account for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1971, pursuant to section 54 of the Statute Law (Superannuation) Amendment Act, 1966, chapter 44, Statutes of Canada, 1966-67.

Report of Defence Construction (1951) Limited, including its Accounts and Financial Statements certified by the Auditor General, for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1971, pursuant to sections 85(3) and 87(3) of the Financial Administration Act, chapter 116, R.S.C., 1952.

## TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

### COMMITTEE AUTHORIZED TO MEET DURING SITTINGS OF THE SENATE

**Hon. A. Hamilton McDonald**, with leave of the Senate, moved:

That the Standing Senate Committee on Transport and Communications have power to sit while the Senate is sitting today, and that Rule 76(4) be suspended in relation thereto.

Motion agreed to.

## CONSTITUTION OF CANADA

### STATUS OF CHARTER 1971—QUESTION

**Hon. Orville H. Phillips:** Honourable senators, I should like to ask the Leader of the Government what is the present status of the so-called Charter '71 now that the Province of Quebec has rejected it? Moreover what procedure will be followed in patriating the Constitution in the future?

**Hon. Paul Martin:** Honourable senators, perhaps later in the day I will be in a position to say something on this matter. At the moment I would prefer to wait.

## HON. WILLIAM C. McNAMARA

### MEMBER OF TRADE DELEGATION TO CHINA

**Hon. Paul Martin:** I am sure most honourable senators are aware that one of our number, Senator McNamara, former Chairman of the Canadian Wheat Board, who has had long and almost continuous contact with the Republic of China, will be leaving tomorrow as a member of a trade delegation to the Republic of China. That delegation is headed by my colleague the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. I have felt that there were many extra functions the members of this house could perform because of particular experiences. This is a good example of some of the additional work that a senator may perform. In this case it will be a performance based on valuable experience that Senator McNamara has had. We are pleased to see him a member of this delegation and we wish him and the delegation much success in their endeavours.

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BILL, 1971

### THIRD READING

**Hon. A. Hamilton McDonald** moved the third reading of Bill C-229, respecting unemployment insurance in Canada.

**Hon. Frank C. Welch:** Honourable senators, I should like to speak for a few moments on Bill C-229 before it is passed. I believe unemployment insurance came into effect about 30 years ago, about 1941. At that time an employee earning over \$2,000 a year was not eligible to receive benefits. Under Bill C-229 the ceiling for employees to draw benefits for unemployment is unlimited. This change will cost large firms hiring professional people a great deal of money and will cause them to charge more and more for manufacturing goods, with the result that prices will increase. It is one more crack at the economy.