November 2, 1978

With respect to the bill relating to the pensions of public servants, I think it would be a good idea to have it debated at the earliest possible date in order to remove much of the misunderstanding and concern, which I regard as unjustified, and to which the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) has alluded.

It is the intention of the government to bring forward the ombudsman bill. It is now before us for study, and it will be brought forward.

It is not the intention, at least I do not intend in the near future, to put a general bill before the House dealing with Crown corporations. It is a very complex subject, and I believe it would be better for us to deal with the issues involved in the Post Office Crown corporation as it is proposed.

It is the intention, if we get second reading of the child benefit bill, to go into committee of the whole. I should advise the House that the Minister of Finance (Mr. Chrétien) is meeting with his colleagues, the other finance ministers, but I am sure the House will be pleased to hear that the very capable Minister of National Health and Welfare (Miss Bégin) will assist the rapid passage of the bill through committee of the whole, aided, if necessary, by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance (Mr. Martin).

Family Allowances

BANKS AND BANKING LAW REVISION ACT, 1978

MEASURE RESPECTING BANKING INSTITUTIONS

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Deputy Prime Minister and President of Privy Council) (for Mr. Chrétien) moved for leave to introduce Bill C- 15, to revise the Bank Act, to amend the Quebec Savings Banks Act and the Bank of Canada Act, to establish the Canadian Payments Association and to amend other acts in consequence thereof.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

[Translation]

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

Mr. Yvon Pinard (Parliamentary Secretary to President of Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I ask that all questions be allowed to stand.

Mr. Speaker: Is that agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

ANTI-INFLATION ACT

TABLING OF BOARD'S REFERENCE FORWARDED TO ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Alan Martin (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, in accordance with section 17(2) of the Anti-Inflation Act, I should like to table a copy of the reference from the Anti-Inflation Board to the Administrator, dated October 23, 1978.

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT

MEASURE TO AMEND

Hon. Bud Cullen (Minister of Employment and Immigration) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-14, to amend the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1971.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[Translation]

INCOME TAX ACT

AMENDMENT TO PROVIDE FOR CHILD TAX CREDIT

The House resumed, from Wednesday, November 1, consideration of the motion of Mr. Chrétien that Bill C-10, to amend the Income Tax Act to provide for a child tax credit and to amend the Family Allowances Act, be read the second time and referred to committee of the whole.

Mr. C. A. Gauthier (Roberval): Mr. Speaker, I had begun my speech yesterday and I was talking about the publicity accompanying every government action and I was saying this publicity was misleading. As an example of this misleading literature, here is how they can have people accept a smaller cheque. I am quoting another part of the famous folder I mentioned:

In order to ensure funds for this child tax credit, we will have to lower the monthly family allowances from the current \$25.68 to \$20 for each child. However, they will continue to be paid to eligible families—

This \$20, not the \$25, is therefore taxable.

—and, of course, to be indexed to the cost of living. The majority of Canadian families will benefit from this change because in addition to receiving the new tax credit, they will continue withdrawing their family allowances.