

[Translation]

## BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

### SPECIAL STUDY ON DRAFT REGULATIONS— REPORT OF COMMITTEE ADOPTED

The Senate proceeded to consideration of the twenty-fifth report of the Standing Senate Committee on Banking, Trade and Commerce, presented in the Senate on March 25, 1993.

**Hon. Jean-Marie Poitras:** Honourable senators, I move the adoption of this report.

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

**Hon. Senators:** Agreed.

Motion agreed to and report adopted.

## INTERNAL ECONOMY, BUDGETS AND ADMINISTRATION

### THIRTY-FIRST REPORT OF COMMITTEE ADOPTED

On the Order:

Resuming the debate on the motion of the Honourable Senator Lavoie-Roux, seconded by the Honourable Senator Doody, for the adoption of the Thirty-First Report of the Standing Committee on Internal Economy, Budgets and Administration (Senators' Secretaries Annual Leave), presented in the Senate on March 23, 1993.

**Hon. Gildas L. Molgat (Deputy Leader of the Opposition):** Honourable senators, I shall not be very long. I want to ask the committee chairman a question. I agree with the report, but the report says that secretaries can ask to be paid in full now or when they leave the service.

Whatever they choose, it means a lump-sum payment that could have a tax impact because they would have to take this amount, which could be large in some cases, in a single year. Would it be possible for a secretary to take part this year, part next year, and part the year after and so on — that is, spread the payment over a number of years? They would not be cheating in any way but simply reducing their income tax perfectly legally.

**Hon. Thérèse Lavoie-Roux:** Honorable senator, you were on the subcommittee yourself. We overlooked that point. Unless someone in this house objects, could a secretary spread these payments over a certain period? I understand that some of them have fairly large amounts. Should the number

of payments be limited to three or four in principle? Could we accept this in principle and examine this provision to make sure that we are not creating additional obligations for the Senate and that we are being fair to the secretaries at the same time? If you agree to adopt the report, we could look into the point you just raised later on.

**Senator Molgat:** I was present at the meeting and I accepted what was said there, but later, when I thought it over, I realized that we may have committed an injustice in a way. Since these secretaries had accumulated this entitlement over many years, it might be fairer to let them withdraw it in the same way. With your recommendation that it is not necessarily graven in stone and that we are prepared to make changes, I accept what you said.

**Senator Lavoie-Roux:** There are terms and conditions for payment. We agree that leave should no longer be accumulated beyond a year. As for spreading the payment of amounts we owe them, we will reconsider it to make it as fair as possible for everyone.

**The Hon. the Speaker *pro tempore*:** The Honourable Senator Lavoie-Roux, seconded by the Honourable Senator Doody, moved the adoption of this report. Honourable senators, is it your pleasure to adopt the motion?

**Hon. Senators:** Agreed.

Motion agreed to and report adopted.

[English]

• (1640)

## THE ESTIMATES, 1993-94

### MOTION TO CHANGE COMMITTEE DESIGNATED TO CONSIDER CERTAIN COMMUNICATIONS VOTES WITHDRAWN

On the Order:

Resuming the debate on the motion of the Honourable Senator Marshall, seconded by the Honourable Senator Doody:

THAT Communications Votes 35, 40, 45 (Canadian Broadcasting Corporation), Vote 80 (National Film Board) and Vote 65 (CRTC), wherein the said Votes deal with the Valour and the Horror, of the 1993-94 Estimates, which were referred to the Standing Senate Committee on National Finance on 25th February, 1993, be withdrawn from the said Committee and referred to the Standing Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology.—(Honourable Senator Lynch-Staunton)