

THIRD READING

The Hon. the Speaker *pro tem*: Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the third time?

Hon. Paul Martin: Honourable senators, with leave of the Senate and notwithstanding Rule 45(1)(b), I move that the bill be read the third time now.

Motion agreed to and bill read third time and passed.

THE SENATE

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE

Hon. Jacques Flynn: Honourable senators, I rise on a question of privilege affecting the whole Senate.

Yesterday in the other place the Prime Minister moved the following motion:

That when the House adjourns following the third reading and passing of Bills C-170 and C-201, or, at the ordinary time of daily adjournment on Friday, July 7, 1972, as the case may be, it shall stand adjourned until a time to be fixed by Mr. Speaker, at the request of the Government, when the House may meet for the purpose of the giving of Royal Assent to any bills that have not been given Royal Assent;

That motion was amended to read:

That when the House adjourns at the ordinary time of daily adjournment on Friday, July 7, 1972, provided that Royal Assent has been given to Bill C-230—

Of course, that will be done later this day, but as I read that motion it means that if the Senate were to receive Bills C-170 and C-201, or either one of them, the House of Commons would not meet to consider any amendments the Senate might make to those bills, but would only meet to give royal assent to them. In other words, that motion assumes either that the Senate will merely rubber-stamp those bills or that, to give it the most generous interpretation possible, if the Senate does make any amendments to those bills the House of Commons will only consider those amendments when it returns in the fall.

I am quite sure that the person who drafted that motion for the Prime Minister must have worked it that way inadvertently, but I think I should point out that as it reads now the motion is an insult to the Senate.

• (1240)

Hon. Paul Martin: Honourable senators, I shall certainly take a look at what my friend has said in relation to that motion. May I take this opportunity to point out that it is now proposed that we adjourn to the call of the bell at approximately 4.30 this afternoon?

May I also thank Senator Flynn and all honourable senators for the thorough way in which they have dealt with the measure we have just passed? I know that there will be a large group of senators here for the royal assent.

Hon. Mr. Flynn: There will be as many senators here as there will be members from the other place.

Hon. Mr. Martin: There will be even more. In this connection let me say to Senator Flynn that I have been keeping a tab not only on attendance at royal assents, but on attendances generally in the Senate and in the House of Commons. It is my definite judgment that our attend-

ance record compares very favourably with the day-to-day attendance in the other place.

I understand that the House of Commons is presently dealing with another bill. Should that bill pass in that place before their adjournment at approximately 4.30 p.m.—because of royal assent—then, of course, we will have to deal with it next week. Here I am indicating once again the likelihood of our having to sit next week. I have already indicated my own personal preferences, but I had better not go on doing that in view of my responsibility as a member of the government. I shall not be here myself at 4.30 because of royal assent and the requirement that I be elsewhere, but I should like to take this occasion to say that if that legislation should pass in the other place, then I know there will be a large representation of senators here whenever we meet next week, whether on Monday or any other day.

I should also like to draw to the attention of the public, as I did last week and as Senator Flynn has already done, that should this legislation pass and should we be meeting next week, then in all probability we shall be meeting when the House of Commons itself will not be sitting.

ROYAL ASSENT

NOTICE

The Hon. the Speaker *pro tem* informed the Senate that he had received the following communication:

GOVERNMENT HOUSE

OTTAWA

7 July 1972

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the Honourable Wishart F. Spence, O.B.E., Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Canada, in his capacity as Deputy Governor General, will proceed to the Senate Chamber today, the 7th day of July, at 4.45 p.m. for the purpose of giving Royal Assent to certain bills.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
André Garneau
Colonel
Administrative Secretary.

The Honourable
The Speaker of the Senate,
Ottawa.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

At 4.30 p.m. the sitting was resumed.