

extension of the spouse's allowance in certain cases, but it will come into effect only when that bill has received royal assent.

● (1512)

This means that every day that we delay the passing of that bill, seven more spouses between the ages of 60 and 65 who have become widows will not get the benefit under the act. Therefore I am suggesting that the Deputy Prime Minister call that bill first so that we could pass it quickly, sent it over to the Senate, and get it passed on the earliest possible date. As I say, every day means seven more widows who will not get the benefit of that legislation.

**Mr. MacEachen:** Mr. Speaker, the representation made by the hon. member is a good one because I have been concerned, as has the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Miss Bégin), about the speedy passage of the bill, for the reasons cited by the hon. member. I would be prepared to call Bill C-5 as the first item today if I had some understanding that it would be passed without debate, so we could go on to the bill on the borrowing authority. If that is the wish of the House, I will call it, but I cannot call it without an assurance of some kind. Otherwise, it may take all afternoon and I would not be able to have the borrowing authority bill passed, which is under a time limit, and which would normally be passed within an hour.

**Mr. Alexander:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on the same point of order. I heard the minister mention the Crown corporation bill affecting the Post Office. A few days ago I heard the Minister of State for the Environment (Mr. Marchand) mention the Crown corporation bill. My concern, which has been registered by others, is that the government is thinking about introducing the omnibus Crown corporation bill to determine the conduct, control and accountability of Crown corporations. Given the fact that a Post Office Crown corporation might not be the answer, is the government considering the ramifications of dealing with a Post Office Crown corporation bill followed by an omnibus bill on Crown corporations which could perhaps wipe out the effectiveness of the previous bill? Are we not a little premature in giving the Crown corporation bill such high priority.

I am just bringing this to the minister's attention because of the great concern which not only the government but we on this side and the people of Canada have with regard to the conduct of Crown corporations. Is there any possibility of the omnibus bill on Crown corporations guiding the conduct, control and accountability of Crown corporations, being brought forward in the very near future?

**Mr. MacEachen:** Mr. Speaker, I would say that there is little likelihood of the general bill being brought forward before the bill relating to the Post Office as a new Crown corporation. I believe the House will have to deal with the provisions of that bill on their own merit, and later we can deal with the general principles relating to all Crown corporations.

### *Introduction of Bills*

**Mr. Brisco:** Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the government House leader whether or not it is the intention of the government to reintroduce Bill C-14 which died on the order paper in the last session, dealing with the regulation, control and development of nuclear energy.

**Mr. MacEachen:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I believe that that bill is on my list, but I will have to check further. I am sure there is a bill dealing with nuclear administration which will be put before the House.

**Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton):** Mr. Speaker, I rise with respect to a point I wish to make following the discussion we had a few minutes ago on Bill C-5. If it is the intention of the government House leader to call it immediately with the understanding that the matter would go through without debate, we are quite willing to deal with it.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton):** Frankly, I had anticipated that there would be a period before private members' hour when we could do that, but I have no objection to dealing with the bill sooner. I think, in fact, it is an excellent suggestion.

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## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

### REGULATIONS AND OTHER STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

First and second reports of the Standing Joint Committee on Regulations and Other Statutory Instruments—Mr. Robinson.

[*Editor's Note: For texts of above reports, see today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

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[Translation]

### ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE ACT

MEASURE TO AMEND

**Hon. J.-J. Blais (Solicitor General)** moved for leave to introduce Bill C-19, to amend the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Act.

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