Introduction of Bills

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

CANADA PENSION PLAN

TABLING OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT ON DISABILITY
RENEFITS

Hon. Monique Bégin (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Madam Speaker, under Standing Order 46(2) I am pleased to table in the House, in both official languages, the report of the Canada Pension Plan Advisory Committee on disability benefits.

[Translation]

PETITIONS

MR. LACHANCE—INSTALLATION OF POSTAL BOX AT GABRIELLE SAGARD HOUSE

Mr. Claude-André Lachance (Rosemont): Madam Speaker, I am speaking on behalf of sixty-four residents of the Gabrielle Sagard Home on 3001 Everett Street. These senior citizens respectfully ask the Canada Post Corporation to instal a post box near or in the home, which would be more convenient for them.

[English]

MR. ANGUISH—TESTING OF CRUISE MISSILE ON CANADIAN SOIL

Mr. Doug Anguish (The Battlefords-Meadow Lake): Madam Speaker, I have a great deal of pleasure today to present to the House of Commons a petition signed by the residents of Canoe Narrows, Cole Bay and Jans Bay in the Province of Saskatchewan, in the Battlefords-Meadow Lake constituency, opposing and testing or proposed testing of the Cruise missile in Canada. These communities border on the Primrose Lake air weapons range.

The petitioners would like their petition brought to the particular attention of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Lamontagne) and the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. MacEachen).

NATIONAL CAPITAL ACT

AMENDMENT TO INCREASE NUMBER OF COMMISSION MEMBERS

Mr. Dave Nickerson (Western Arctic) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-677, an Act to amend the National Capital Act.

He said: Madam Speaker, at present every Province in Canada has a representative on the National Capital Commission, but the Northwest Territories and Yukon are not represented unless a person from one of those two Territories happens to be appointed as a member at large, as was the case, for instance, with the late Paul Kaeser of Fort Smith who served so ably for so many years.

My Bill would right this wrong by increasing the number of Commission members to provide for the mandatory appointment of one member from the Northwest Territories and one member from the Yukon.

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

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

ALLOCATION OF TIME TO CONSIDER REPORT AND THIRD READING STAGES OF BILL C-143

Hon. Paul J. Cosgrove (Minister of State (Finance)): Madam Speaker, I move:

That, in relation to Bill C-143, An Act to provide supplementary borrowing authority, one sitting day shall be allotted to the consideration of each of the report stage and the third reading of the Bill; and

That fifteen minutes before the expiry of the time provided for Government business on those days, any proceedings before the House shall be interrupted, if required, for the purpose of this Order and, in turn, every question then necessary in order to dispose of the stage of the Bill then under consideration shall be put forthwith and successively, without further debate or amendment.

He said: Madam Speaker, on March 8 when I addressed second reading of Bill C-143, An Act to provide supplementary borrowing authority, I described the Bill as a measure required by the Government for prudent financial housekeeping. I might add that since debate began on this Bill more than a month ago, we have spent more than 33 hours, involving nine days, to take the matter to this stage. This total includes an aggregate of close to 24 hours of debate in this House, and a further ten hours before the House Standing Committee on Finance.

Again as I pointed out at that time, the interim borrowing authority we are seeking is normally a routine procedure which gives the Government economic leverage in the marketplace. Without this authorization, the borrowing activities of the Government would be constrained in the early months of the new fiscal year, which is traditionally a period in which the Government usually faces heavy cash requirements stemming, for example, from payment of income tax refunds and from other seasonal factors.

What we have attempted to point out during this protracted debate on this matter is that if borrowing powers are limited during this crucial time, the Government would be precluded from the prudent planning of its debt program and would not be able to take advantage of developing market situations. This would be costly not only to the Government, but could impact upon provincial Governments in their borrowing activities and could impact also upon the private sector in the market, and therefore be disruptive in the capital market generally.

I would remind Hon. Members that in the tabling of the Main Estimates more than a month ago, the President of the