

relevance. One can object to irrelevant or irregular statements at the time they are made, but once that has been done, the Chair cannot ask the Senator to retract any more than it can ask him to withdraw the irrelevant statements that are made so frequently in this chamber. There has never been a ruling of this kind.

Senator Corbin: Honourable senators, I beg your pardon! On the contrary, I think there are quite a few precedents. I qualified my statement earlier when I rose, saying that I would have liked to speak right away. I did not want to look unprepared, however, and that is why I took the time to consult *Beauchesne's*. That was my only reason.

My point was not to delay today's proceedings. I know this is not exactly the most important question we have to discuss. I agree. Nevertheless, it is a matter of basic parliamentary procedure, and if we let this pass, how often is this going to happen in the future and how often has it already happened in the past?

Senator Flynn: It happens all the time!

Senator Corbin: Well, in that case, let's get together in front of the Centennial Flame this evening and burn *Beauchesne's*, because he is no use to us any more.

Senator Flynn: We can burn *Beauchesne's* and your questions as well.

● (1500)

[English]

Hon. H.A. Olson: Honourable senators, I should like to say a word or two about the point of order. The Leader of the Government in the Senate, who made the offensive remarks, has indicated that he is sorry. Then he said, unfortunately, that it is "no big deal." It is a big deal if we let people get away with that. That is the problem. The Leader of the Government would have been in order had he left it at that. As Senator Corbin has stated, history is full of Speaker's rulings that reflection on past votes is discourteous and out of order.

Senator Murray: I did not reflect.

Senator Olson: You did. If you disagree, we will wait until we see the "blues." If I remember correctly, what you said was, "because a majority of honourable senators voted for this resolution". You were using a reflection on a previous vote to argue for the current motion, and that clearly is discourteous and out of order.

Senator Murray: I am sorry my honourable friend is ashamed of his vote already.

Senator Olson: I am ashamed of your comments.

On motion of Senator Rizzuto, debate adjourned.

VENICE SUMMIT, 1987

On tabling of documents:

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Leader of the Opposition): Honourable senators, did the Deputy Leader of the Govern-

ment include in the list of documents tabled a copy of the Venice communiqué? Perhaps he did include that, and, if so, I did not hear him. If not, could we have that at some point?

Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government): It was not on the list. We do not have it here, but we will certainly arrange to have it brought in.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SEVENTH AND EIGHTH REPORTS OF COMMITTEE PRESENTED AND PRINTED AS APPENDICES

Hon. George van Roggen: Honourable senators, the Standing Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs has the honour to present its Seventh and Eighth Reports.

I ask that each report be printed as an appendix to the *Minutes of the Proceedings of the Senate* and to the *Debates of the Senate* of this day and form part of the permanent records of this house.

The Hon. the Speaker: Is it agreed, honourable senators?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

(For text of Seventh Report, see Appendix "A", p. 1257. For text of Eighth Report, see Appendix "B", p. 1259.)

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, when shall these reports be taken into consideration?

On motion of Senator van Roggen, reports placed on the Orders of the Day for consideration at the next sitting of the Senate.

[Translation]

SOCIAL AFFAIRS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
SIXTH REPORT OF COMMITTEE PRESENTED AND PRINTED AS APPENDIX

Hon. Arthur Tremblay: Honourable senators, I have the honour to present the sixth report of the Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology respecting power to incur special expenses pursuant to the procedural guidelines for the financial operation of Senate committees. I ask that the report be printed as an appendix to the *Minutes of the Proceedings of the Senate* and the *Debates of the Senate* of this day and that it form part of the permanent records of this House.

The Hon. the Speaker: Is it agreed, honourable senators?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

(For text of report, see Appendix "C", p. 1261.)

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, when shall this report be taken into consideration?

On motion of Senator Tremblay, report placed on the orders of the Day for consideration at the next sitting of the Senate.

[English]

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SUBJECT MATTER OF BILL C-22

SECOND REPORT OF COMMITTEE—STATUS

Hon. Orville H. Phillips: Honourable senators, before we move on to Notices of Inquiries, may I point out that the