

officer called the Auditor General of Canada to hold office during good behaviour for a term of ten years, but the Auditor General may be removed by the Governor in Council on address of the Senate and House of Commons".

MISCELLANEOUS STATUTE LAW AMENDMENT BILL, 1987

SECOND READING

On the Order:

Resuming the debate on the motion of the Honourable Senator Nurgitz, seconded by the Honourable Senator Tremblay, for the second reading of the Bill C-104, An Act to correct certain anomalies, inconsistencies, archaisms and errors and to deal with other matters of a non-controversial and uncomplicated nature in the Statutes of Canada.—(*Honourable Senator Frith*).

Hon. Royce Frith (Deputy Leader of the Opposition): Honourable senators, Senator Nurgitz has pinpointed for me the report I asked for yesterday. It appears at page 1701 of the *Minutes of the Proceedings of the Senate* of December 10, 1987. As he assured us yesterday, it is, indeed, a favourable report on the study of this bill. Therefore, I would just ask him a couple of questions that he may answer in closing the debate.

First, I am not clear as to how the committee received this reference. I have the idea that there is something automatic about it; in other words, as Senator Nurgitz mentioned yesterday, there is some sort of regular program in this regard. I notice that he is nodding his head, so apparently I am right. Perhaps he can tell us exactly how that happened.

The fourteenth report states that the committee "examined the said document." I note that it is called a document here rather than a bill, and I can understand why—the bill was not before us at that time. The report goes on to state:

—and now reports it with the following amendments:

Delete proposed clause 37.

As to proposed clauses 12 and 39, the report states:

Proposed clauses 12 and 39 should be deleted in accordance with the undertaking given by the Senior Legislative Counsel of the Department of Justice . . .

As to proposed schedule I, item 8, the report states:

Proposed schedule I, item 8 should be amended in accordance with the undertaking given by the Senior Legislative Counsel of the Department of Justice . . .

Finally, as to proposed schedule I, the report states:

Add new items 43 and 44 and renumber, in accordance with the undertaking given by the Senior Legislative Counsel of the Department of Justice . . .

Can Senator Nurgitz assure us that those recommendations were all accepted and that they are incorporated in the bill that is now before us? Senator Neiman moved the adoption of that report and it was adopted by the Senate. Therefore, it

seems clear to me that there is no need for its reference to committee. In addition, it seems to me that there is no need for further debate, provided that Senator Nurgitz can give us all of those assurances.

Hon. Nathan Nurgitz: Honourable senators—

The Hon. the Speaker pro tempore: Honourable senators, I wish to inform the Senate that if Senator Nurgitz speaks now his speech will have the effect of closing debate on second reading of this bill.

Senator Nurgitz: Honourable senators, as to how this matter was referred to the committee, as Senator Frith hinted, there is in place an ongoing program or an ongoing file of matters which will be written up into draft bills as soon as we have reached the point where it is possible to do that.

Senator Frith: That draft bill is the "document" that is referred to in the report?

Senator Nurgitz: Yes. That draft bill is then referred, under the program, to the standing committees of the two chambers. That is how the bill is referred to committee. My recollection is that this brings current the statutes to the end of December. I notice that Mr. Lewis, the person responsible in the House of Commons for sponsorship of this matter, indicated that it was all bills that had to this date received Royal Assent. My authority for saying that is the House of Commons *Hansard*.

Those matters with respect to which either the House of Commons committee or the Senate committee recommended deletion or amendment have been so amended or deleted. We have been assured of this by counsel from the Department of Justice.

Senator Frith: All recommendations have been incorporated, then?

Senator Nurgitz: The recommendations have been incorporated in Bill C-104; I can give that assurance.

With that, honourable senators, I urge that we proceed with this bill.

Motion agreed to and bill read second time.

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

On motion of Senator Nurgitz, bill placed on the Orders of the Day for third reading at the next sitting of the Senate.

CURRENCY ACT

BILL TO AMEND—SECOND READING—DEBATE ADJOURNED

Hon. Jack Marshall moved the second reading of Bill C-99, to amend the Currency Act.

He said: Honourable senators, Bill C-99 is outside the scope of my knowledge, but in view of the fact that they had to reach to the bottom of the barrel, I must take on this responsibility.

Senator Frith: We never let that operate as an inhibition around here!