

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, May 31, 1994

The House met at 10 a.m.

Prayers

[English]

POINTS OF ORDER

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Mr. Peter Milliken (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. When Bill C-18 was reported to this House from the Senate the note in *Votes and Proceedings* for that day, I believe it was a week ago Wednesday, indicated that the message had been received from the Senate informing this House that the Senate had passed Bill C-18 with amendments. The amendments were not printed as part of the text of *Votes and Proceedings* and I am concerned that it is very difficult for members to have to order a sessional paper in order to see the text of these amendments.

In our own House when there are amendments moved at the report stage of a bill the text of the amendments, of course, appears in *Votes and Proceedings* as part of the minutes of the day. I suggest that while many may regard the proceedings in the Senate as irrelevant and unimportant, in this particular case they have some importance for this House and it would be convenient if members were able to read the text of the amendments in *Votes and Proceedings*. Otherwise members have to go through some difficulty to obtain copies.

My own committee has approved changes in the way that *Votes and Proceedings* is prepared, designed to save money and eliminate duplication of printing. The Senate amendments are not printed in any other House documentation and I do not know whether Your Honour has ever tried to get minutes of the Senate. I have tried to subscribe for the five or six years that I have been in this place, and I cannot get them delivered on a regular basis.

They are very difficult to obtain and I could send a staff member to the distribution office to get a copy but that seems needless trouble every day. That is what I am expected now to do; at least that is the only way I seem to be able to obtain the minutes of the Senate.

In the absence of a printed record I suggest that it would be entirely appropriate to have Senate amendments printed in the *Votes and Proceedings* and I would ask Your Honour to direct the amendments to Bill C-18 be printed as a correction to the *Votes and Proceedings* for the day on which the matter was reported so that they will be recorded then and for the future in our proceedings so we can see what amendments the Senate makes to Commons bills when it decides in its wisdom to make changes.

I know there are many members who feel it inappropriate for the Senate to make changes to Commons bills, but the fact is that it does happen from time to time and we do have to tolerate this inconvenience. I do think it ought to be brought to our attention in our *Votes and Proceedings* when a message is received from the Senate indicating that there is such a change.

The Speaker: The hon. member's point is, of course, well taken and your Speaker will look into the matter and come back to the House with this information.

We will now proceed to routine business of the day.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

• (1010)

[English]

YUKON FIRST NATIONS LANDS SETTLEMENT ACT

Hon. Ron Irwin (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-33, an act to approve, give effect to and declare valid land claims agreements entered into between Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada, the Government of the Yukon Territory and certain First Nations in the Yukon Territory, to provide for approving, giving effect to and declaring valid other land claims agreements entered into after this act comes into force, and to make consequential amendments to other acts.

(Motions deemed adopted, bill read the first time and printed.)

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[Translation]

PETITIONS

ABUSE IN THE MEDIA

Mr. Ronald J. Duhamel (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Public Works and Government Services): Mr. Speaker, the petition I am tabling this morning requests that either the