

Resolution 587, for the relief of Lucien Doldard Laurin.

Resolution 588, for the relief of Henri Fraser.

Resolution 589, for the relief of Josef Prucha.

Resolution 590, for the relief of Paul Lachance.

Resolution 591, for the relief of Andre Gingras.

Resolution 592, for the relief of Clarence Harding.

Resolution 593, for the relief of Lucien Desruisseaux.

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

Hon. Mr. Roebuck: Honourable senators, I move that these resolutions be placed on the Orders of the Day for consideration at the next sitting.

Motion agreed to.

THE ESTIMATES

REPORT OF NATIONAL FINANCE COMMITTEE ADOPTED

The Senate resumed from yesterday consideration of the report of the Standing Senate Committee on National Finance to which was referred the Estimates laid before Parliament for the fiscal year ending March 13, 1970.

Hon. John M. Macdonald: Honourable senators, I ask leave to yield to the honourable Senator Grosart.

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

Hon. Allister Grosart: Honourable senators, I should first apologize to the Chairman of the National Finance Committee, of which I am a member, for the fact that I was not in the chamber yesterday to hear his speech on presenting the report. I also apologize to Senator Everett, who has been a very busy member of the committee, and who also spoke yesterday.

I am sure other members of the committee would wish me at this time to draw particular attention to the fine work Senator Leonard has done as chairman of this committee.

Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Grosart: As he said in his remarks yesterday, this is one committee that has had no problem maintaining a quorum at

its meetings, and I think a good deal of the credit for that goes to Senator Leonard.

When I was appointed to the Senate, the Finance Committee was not very active, but four or five years ago it began to assume a responsibility for the examination of the Estimates and Public Accounts. I recall that it was Senator Leonard who brought about the new look in the attitudes of the committee members and who yielded to his successor, His Honour, and then, later, responded to the call to return as chairman of the committee.

As one who has long been interested in the subject of the public purse, I have learned more in that committee than from any reading I have done outside. As a matter of fact, two statements might be made in this connection. One is that in Canada we have practically no textbook literature on this very important subject of the Estimates and Public Accounts. Norman Ward's book *The Public Purse* is the only one that deals with it and it only deals with the supply side, without going into ways and means. There are important aspects of the spending of public money in Canada contained in the proceedings of the Senate Finance Committee over the years that are not to be found anywhere else. These derive from evidence given over the years by Dr. Davidson and Mr. Bryce, in their official capacities, and others, in respect to public spending. I personally hope that Senator Leonard will give serious consideration to publishing, perhaps in hard-covered book form, some of this information. I am sure that were he to put the suggestion to an expert in this field, he would agree that there is information contained in our reports of proceedings that is not to be found anywhere else, and which would make a contribution to the understanding of those who are so anxiously and earnestly studying this question of public financing in Canada today.

Senator Leonard pointed out that the report was produced "under the gun." In our last session we sat until after eleven o'clock on the final night, which perhaps explains one oddity in the report, appearing at the top of page 1707 of the *Debates of the Senate*, where there appears a statement about the inflation we are now experiencing. Honourable senators will see between brackets the letters "Sp?". Obviously, at the time the report was prepared someone questioned the spelling of "experiencing." I can assure honourable senators that it is spelled correctly, but it is an indication of the intense scrutiny the committee gives such matters, that we even check up on our spelling and are not ashamed to indi-