

THE SENATE

Thursday, May 1, 1975

The Senate met at 2 p.m. the Speaker in the Chair.
Prayers.

IMMIGRATION POLICY

SPECIAL JOINT COMMITTEE—CHANGE IN COMMONS
MEMBERSHIP

The Hon. the Speaker informed the Senate that a message had been received from the House of Commons to acquaint the Senate that the name of Mr. Rodriguez has been substituted for that of Mr. Orlikow on the list of members appointed to serve on the Special Joint Committee on Immigration Policy.

THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF COMMONS ACT, THE SALARIES ACT AND THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIES ACT

BILL TO AMEND—FIRST READING

The Hon. the Speaker informed the Senate that a message had been received from the House of Commons with Bill C-44, to amend the Senate and House of Commons Act, the Salaries Act and the Parliamentary Secretaries Act.

Bill read first time.

Senator Perrault moved that the bill be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading on Tuesday next.

PETROLEUM ADMINISTRATION BILL

FIRST READING

The Hon. the Speaker informed the Senate that a message had been received from the House of Commons with Bill C-32, to impose a charge on the export of crude oil and certain petroleum products, to provide compensation for certain petroleum costs and to regulate the price of Canadian crude oil and natural gas in interprovincial and export trade.

Bill read first time.

Senator Perrault moved that the bill be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading on Tuesday next.

DOCUMENTS TABLED

Senator Perrault tabled:

Report of the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1974, pursuant to section 6 of the Department of Agriculture Act, Chapter A-10, R.S.C., 1970.

FARM CREDIT ACT

BILL TO AMEND—REPORT OF COMMITTEE PRESENTED

Senator Argue, Chairman of the Standing Senate Committee on Agriculture, presented the following report:

Thursday, April 24, 1975

The Standing Senate Committee on Agriculture to which was referred Bill C-34, intituled: "An Act to amend the Farm Credit Act" has, in obedience to the order of reference of Tuesday, April 22, 1975 examined the said bill and now reports the same with the following amendment:

Strike out the word "thirty-five" and substitute the word "forty" in lines 43 and 49 on page 2, in lines 7 and 16 on page 3, and in lines 7 and 34 on page 8.

In addition your committee desires to make two recommendations arising out of its discussions.

First, your committee would like to see the Farm Credit Corporation take on an expanded and more vigorous role in the provision of credit to farmers for the development of agricultural production in Canada.

Your committee therefore recommends that the Government consider the advisability of increasing the capital of the Farm Credit Corporation from one hundred million to one hundred and twenty-five million dollars.

Second, your committee is concerned that the current upward trend in the price of land and other farm capital will continue and that the loan ceilings under the Act may soon become inadequate for the needs of both new and established farmers.

Your committee therefore recommends that the Government consider the advisability of increasing the ceilings on loans made under Parts III and IV to new and young farmers from one hundred and fifty thousand to two hundred thousand dollars and of increasing the ceiling on loans made under Part II to older and established farmers from one hundred thousand to one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

Your committee believes that the changes to the Farm Credit Act embodied in this bill are important and necessary. However, it believes that perhaps a little more flexibility in corporation capital and loan ceilings would be most helpful in increasing Canada's agricultural production and bettering the conditions under which farmers operate.

Respectfully submitted.

Hazen Argue
Chairman

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