

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, March 17, 1967

The house met at 11 a.m.

[Translation]

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

Second report of special joint committee of the Senate and the House of Commons on Mr. Justice Landreville—Mr. Laflamme.

[Note: Text of the foregoing report appears in today's Votes and Proceedings.]

[English]

NATIONAL DEFENCE

REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL OF UNIFICATION BILL

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Gordon Churchill (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the peripatetic Acting Prime Minister. In view of General Allard's public statement that the integration of Canadian forces will take five years and their unification another five years, making a total of ten, will the Acting Prime Minister give full scope to his obvious leadership qualities and arrange to have the disruptive unification bill withdrawn for reconsideration?

Hon. Paul Martin (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I do not think that kind of question can properly be dealt with on orders of the day. However, I would like to say to my hon. friend "top o' the mornin'".

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): This having been raised in a fashion typical of the Secretary of State for External Affairs, may I extend to him and to all those of Irish origin, in part or in whole, the good wishes of all of us in this house who are not privileged to be of Irish origin. At the same time I ask him, if he is in communication with the Prime Minister, to convey to him the "top o' the mornin'" from all of us in this house.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): I am only one quarter Irish, but I am sure that in this capacity I can say for those who are fully Irish, those who are part Irish and those who

aspire to be Irish, that we accept the greetings and good wishes of the Leader of the Opposition. I am sure that when I talk to the Prime Minister later today he will say not only "top o' the mornin'" but "top o' the day".

FINANCE

REQUEST FOR GUIDE LINES RESPECTING PROFITS, WAGES AND CONSUMER PRICES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Burnaby-Coquitlam): May I ask the Acting Prime Minister a question with regard to the report of Mr. Louis Rasminsky, the governor of the Bank of Canada, in which he states that Canada needs a better performance of its income determining machinery. I want to ask the Acting Prime Minister whether the government consequently is changing its position in respect of the need for economic guide lines to bring about a more equitable relationship among profits, wages and consumer prices.

Hon. Paul Martin (Acting Prime Minister): I will take this question as notice. I believe it is really difficult, on orders of the day, to deal comprehensively with a matter like this.

Mr. Douglas: May I direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Finance following the question to the Acting Prime Minister. In view of the fact that the Minister of Finance has stated on previous occasions that the government did not think economic guide lines would serve any useful purpose, in the light of the report just received from the governor of the Bank of Canada would he now consider setting up economic guide lines to bring about some more equitable relationship among wages, profits and consumer prices?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, in the statements I have made on this subject I have been very careful to say that although I did not think the measures that had been taken in other countries were such as to inspire emulation, I did think we should be continuing to search for some means of mobilizing public opinion on behalf of stability of prices and indeed in support of the general proposition that we all support in