

Committees of the House

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I think that was made clear by all members who took part in the procedural debate we had a moment ago. I think there is no suggestion that there is any condition put on what has been agreed to or will be agreed to by the House if I put the motion. I go back to what I said originally. I feel that these two questions which forcibly, because of the circumstances, came together. I felt very deeply that it would be helpful to the House if the matter of substance relating to statements outside the House could be referred to committee, and I think the House will agree. At the same time, the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate has agreed to retract the statement he had made to the extent that it was a statement which is contrary to the traditions of the House, and I certainly am prepared to accept the explanation of the hon. member for Gander-Twillingate.

I think we have perhaps managed to establish that there are some norms in parliamentary language which all members would want to observe in co-operation with the Chair, because I am here not to invent rules but to put into force rules which members have agreed to and expect the Chair to put into force.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion proposed by the hon. member for Peace River?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

TABLING OF THIRD REPORT OF CLERK OF PETITIONS

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that the Clerk of the House has laid upon the table the third report of the Clerk of Petitions.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[Translation]

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

LABOUR, MANPOWER AND IMMIGRATION

Fourth and fifth reports of Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration—Mr. Portelance.

[English]

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Second and third reports of Standing Committee on Regional Development—Mr. Penner.

[Translation]

JUSTICE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

Fourth report of Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs—Mr. Jerome.

[Mr. MacEachen.]

[English]

BROADCASTING, FILMS AND ASSISTANCE TO THE ARTS

First report of Standing Committee on Broadcasting, Films and Assistance to the Arts—Mr. Stewart (Cochrane).

AGRICULTURE

First report of Standing Committee on Agriculture—Mr. Whicher.

NATIONAL RESOURCES AND PUBLIC WORKS

Third, fourth and fifth reports of Standing Committee on National Resources and Public Works—Mr. Hymmen.

[Editor's Note: For text of above reports, see today's Votes and Proceedings.]

Mr. Nielsen: Mr. Speaker, because of the urgency of the matter I wonder if we could have the unanimous consent of the House to concur in the fourth report of the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs later this day.

Mr. Jerome: Mr. Speaker, I think my friend may be under a misapprehension. I think he is interested in concurring in the report dealing with the augmentation of the committee. That will be the subject of the fifth report which I hope to get the permission of the House to table later this afternoon. The one I have just tabled deals with the estimates.

* * *

STATUS OF WOMEN

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ESTABLISHMENT OF ADVISORY COUNCIL, TERMS OF REFERENCE AND NAMES OF MEMBERS

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I should like to make a statement on motions and table documents in both official languages under Standing Order 41(2) concerning this government's action with regard to the status of women.

● (1430)

As you know, I recently announced my intention to establish an advisory council on the status of women. I would like now to announce the terms of reference for this council, and the names of the members to be appointed to it.

The purpose of the council will be twofold: to bring before the government and the public matters of interest and concern to women, and to advise the government on actions that it deems necessary to improve the position of women in society.

The terms of reference for the council are as follows: to advise the minister responsible in respect of such matters relating to the status of women as the minister may refer to the council for its consideration, or the council considers appropriate.