

This is a bad set of estimates. I hope this House in committee will reject it.

**Mr. Gauthier:** Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

We are dealing with a very important subject, the Main Estimates. My point of order is that according to Standing Order 81(4) these estimates being tabled today will be deemed to have been reported to the House by May 31 next. They will be deemed to be reported even though many committees of the House will not have had time to look at the estimates, seriously consider them and possibly pass judgments on the expenditure plan.

The public accounts committee and some members of this House have for many years said that the House should review the presentation of the information given to Parliament that in its present format—there were some 84 volumes tabled this morning—is sometimes indigestible and is not being used by members of Parliament.

If I look at the government's information, it says here: "The estimates document contain a wealth of information regarding the spending plans of the Government of Canada. Though primarily intended for members of Parliament, these documents will prove useful to groups and individuals".

I am not boasting here, but last year for example, the only standing committee that reported in due course was the standing committee that I chair, the public accounts committee. The finance committee, which looks after a lot of very important documents, met once last year to look at estimates. It met once, on April 9, and looked at the estimates for customs and national revenue.

My point is this. Yesterday in this House, I tabled a report dealing with information to Parliament. It was put forth by the Standing Committee on Public Accounts. I would like to put into the record just one paragraph of that report which says—

**An hon. member:** What is your point of order?

**Mr. Gauthier:** My point of order is that we should look at Standing Order 81(4), an order of the House under which we operate. My point is that we should take note of the voluntary will of the members of Parliament to enhance the information that we have before us to make sure that it is being used, that it has not become a farce.

### *Routine Proceedings*

I have a recommendation for the hon. member, a member of the public accounts committee himself, who actually seconded this report when it was tabled in the House yesterday. He was a member when the report passed unanimously. I pray that he will at least read it and maybe understand it.

• (1135)

The information Parliament gets has to be clearer, has to be more useful and has to be more relevant to what we are getting here.

\* \* \*

[*Translation*]

### **BILL C-93**

#### TABLING OF REPORT OF LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

**Mr. Charles A. Langlois (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons):** Madam Speaker, on behalf of the hon. member for Dauphin—Swan River, I have the honour to table today, in both official languages, the report of the legislative committee on Bill C-93.

\* \* \*

[*English*]

### **BILL C-95**

#### REPORT OF LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

**Mr. Ken Monteith (Elgin—Norfolk):** Madam Speaker, I have the honour to present, in both official languages, the report of the legislative committee on Bill C-95, an act to continue the Farm Credit Corporation and to repeal certain acts in consequence thereof, with an amendment.

[*Editor's Note: See today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

\* \* \*

### **NORTH AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT**

#### IMPLEMENTATION ACT

#### MEASURE TO ENACT

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (for the Minister for International Trade)** moved for leave to introduce Bill C-115, an act to implement the North American free trade agreement.