

will be provided for under the new section 127.3. The investors will be entitled to claim a credit of 50 per cent of the amount provided to the researcher. In turn, the researcher will renounce its rights to the tax deductions and credits.

Indexed security investment plans: The bill introduces the ISIP. Clause 18—

Hon. Martial Asselin: Honourable senators, I rise on a point of order. I wonder what the honourable senator is doing now? Is he giving a report of his committee? Is he making a speech? What is he doing?

Senator Barrow: Honourable senators, I am giving an oral report of the committee.

Senator Asselin: Why did he not table the report first?

Hon. Royce Frith (Acting Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, I think this procedure is in order under rule 78(3). This is the report on a pre-study of a bill, and is therefore offered for information. After the report has been given, it can be laid on the Table. It is often left at that. However, on motion it may be placed on the Orders of the Day for future consideration.

Therefore, when the honourable senator finishes giving the report it will be laid on the Table, and that is it, unless honourable senators wish to make a motion to debate it at a later time.

Senator Asselin: Yes, but Senator Barrow has not tabled it, and he is making a speech on the report itself.

Senator Frith: He is making the report, senator.

Senator Asselin: He should have tabled the report first, because this report is not a debatable matter.

Senator Frith: It is a debatable matter under rule 78(2), if, after he has made the report, it is laid on the Table. The time to decide whether we want to debate the report is the time at which it is laid on the Table—that is, after the report has been made.

Senator Asselin: Is it not the custom of this house, however, that the report first be tabled, then read, after which a question is put as to the consideration of it?

Senator Frith: That is not the case under rule 78(2). Sometimes such reports are simply presented without debate. Under rule 78(3) or 78(4), of course, Senator Asselin is quite right. Under normal procedures, when a committee reports a bill without amendment, the report stands adopted without debate.

Rule 78(2) says that reports shall be received without debate. However, an exception is made in rule 78(3) for a report which is for the information only of the Senate.

Senator Asselin: It says "shall."

Senator Frith: Yes, "shall be received without debate," but it further states that reports that are for the information only of the senators shall be laid on the Table, and may be debated, on motion. Otherwise, rule 78(1) would take effect, and the report would simply be accepted without debate.

[Senator Barrow.]

• (1410)

Hon. Duff Roblin (Acting Leader of the Opposition): In my view, Senator Asselin's point deserves a little more consideration. The report is an oral one. If we refer to rule 78(3), it says:

A report which by its own terms is for the information only of the Senate shall be laid on the Table—

That is not happening. The report is being read. I suggest there is a big difference between a written report that is laid on the Table and an oral report. So, in that sense, Senator Asselin has a concern. I myself am not disturbed so much by the fact that it is an oral report, which has been done before, as I am by the fact that it covers a subject which is highly difficult to comprehend; and the idea that many members of this house will be able to understand the meaning of the convoluted detail of this report by hearing it read on the first occasion is, I believe, a little optimistic. So far as I am concerned, if my honourable friend, the chairman of the committee, wishes to take it as read, and it is then printed and appears on our order paper at a later date, we will have an opportunity to consider the content of what he is saying. As for the present procedure, I am of the opinion that it is probably an exercise in futility.

Senator Frith: Honourable senators, I suggest that the report that is being made is quite in order. It will appear in *Debates of the Senate* because it is being read. I can recall Senator Hayden following a similar course on a previous occasion in connection with pre-study of a subject matter by the same committee. That is the precedent that is being followed.

The suggestions made by Senator Asselin and Senator Roblin are provided for in the rules. The report is being read and no doubt the notes will be tabled. A motion can be made to debate it, if it is considered desirable to do so, and in due course it will appear in *Debates of the Senate* because it is being read. I suggest that we allow the reading of the report to be completed. We know, from information before us, that the subject matter pertains to the bill, which we expect to receive later this afternoon. If we proceed to deal with it, as we shall do on some occasion between now and the end of the month, the report of the pre-study will be in print. The bill will then be referred back to committee, and the report, which will appear in *Debates of the Senate*, will help us determine how much further committee study is required.

Senator Roblin: Perhaps it is worthwhile adding a further comment to what has already been said. The matter of this report was considered in committee. I was present; so I have a certain responsibility for the fact that an oral report is being offered. However, the committee took that course because of the inexorable pressure of time, about which more will be heard today with respect to matters of this kind. We were asked to agree to having an oral report because there was insufficient time to get it properly printed and translated. That is why it is oral and not printed. I believe the same situation applied in the case of Senator Hayden, to which reference was made. It brings up the question that perhaps those of us who