

Senator Murray: Honourable senators, without meaning any offence, I think I will have to ask a team of my best experts to try to fathom that question.

Senator Grafstein: I would certainly be prepared to elucidate further.

Senator Murray: Go ahead; I wish you would.

Senator Grafstein: A major question has obviously arisen with respect to the allocation of the taxpayer's dollar as it applies to federal and provincial programs. Some consideration has been given to the thought that something approaching 70 per cent of every taxpayer's dollar is now spent by the provinces of Canada. I just wonder whether the Leader of the Government in the Senate or the Department of Finance have analyzed the Accord to see whether it affects that pattern, which has changed quite dramatically since the Tremblay commission of 1955. The Leader of the Government in the Senate will recall that there was an allocation made at the time of the Tremblay commission in 1955 indicating that a fair equilibrium between federal and provincial spending should be 50-50. We have passed that mark. I simply wonder whether the federal government has now established a danger line beyond which provincial spending should not go in order to sustain federal spending power.

Senator Murray: Honourable senators, that is a very broad question. I still have difficulty understanding its relevance to the Meech Lake agreement. However, I will re-read the question that was asked by my friend some days ago and I will reflect on the points he has made today. I will take counsel and will see whether the government has some comment or information that I can bring in at this time on that matter.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

COMMISSION OF INQUIRY REPORT—NOTICE OF INQUIRY

Leave having been given to revert to Notices of Inquiries:

Hon. Douglas D. Everett: Honourable senators, on June 30, 1987, I will call the attention of the Senate to the Report of the Commission of Inquiry on Unemployment Insurance, otherwise known as the Forget commission.

[Translation]

PRIVATE BILL

REGIONAL VICAR FOR CANADA OF THE PRELATURE OF THE HOLY CROSS AND OPUS DEI—SECOND READING—ORDER STANDS

On the order:

Resuming the debate on the motion of the Honourable Senator Bélisle, seconded by the Honourable Senator Nurgitz, for the second reading of the Bill S-7, An Act to incorporate the Regional Vicar for Canada of the Prelature of the Holy Cross and Opus Dei.—(*Honourable Senator Corbin*).

[Senator Grafstein.]

Hon. Eymard G. Corbin: Honourable senators, I intend to seek leave to have the debate deferred and stood in my name.

However I would advise my colleagues that if other senators wish to speak to Bill S-7 I would gladly yield to them while reserving the right to rise at a later time.

Order stands.

[English]

BUSINESS OF THE SENATE

ADJOURNMENT

Leave having been given to revert to Notices of Motions:

Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, with leave of the Senate and notwithstanding rule 45(1)(g), I move:

That when the Senate adjourns today, it do stand adjourned until Tuesday next, June 9, 1987, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

Honourable senators, if leave is granted and if it is the wish of the Senate, I will give a brief explanation.

The Hon. the Speaker: Is leave granted, honourable senators?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

Senator Doody: Honourable senators, the order paper is now such as to put no immediate legislative demands upon us. From the government's point of view, there is no legislation coming forward immediately. It seems to me that the Senate could be better served if we take the next several days to deal with matters before committees. Most of the committees now have a very full workload. We have run into some problems in terms of scheduling committee meetings when the Senate is sitting. This has been brought before the Senate on several occasions recently.

It seems to me that if the Senate does not sit formally tomorrow, senators could perhaps arrange committee meetings. They can also arrange meetings on Friday and Monday of next week and, of course, during the mornings and evenings of next week. I repeat that I think the time of the Senate would be best served in committee meetings at those times rather than to have sittings of the chamber with the order paper as it now stands.

Hon. Royce Frith (Deputy Leader of the Opposition): Honourable senators, I agree with the assessment by the Deputy Leader of the Government of the work presently before the Senate. I also agree that most of that work is now in the committees rather than before the chamber. He will understand, however, that I would not want us to lose the opportunity to deal with Order No. 5, standing in Senator Murray's name, which reads as follows:

● (1450)

Resuming the debate on the motion of the Honourable Senator MacEachen, P.C., seconded by the Honourable Senator Frith: