

LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRSREPORT OF COMMITTEE ENTITLED "CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE
CANADIAN CONSTITUTION"—ORDER STANDS

On the Order:

Resuming the debate on the inquiry of the Honourable Senator Lamontagne, P.C., calling the attention of the Senate to the Report of the Standing Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs entitled: "Certain Aspects of the Canadian Constitution", tabled in the Senate on 26th November, 1980—(*Honourable Senator Macdonald*).

Hon. Royce Frith (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, in answer to a question by Senator Deschatelets a week or so ago concerning the trip made by certain senators to Australia to consider the Australian experience of an elected Senate, I said that I intended to initiate an inquiry on that subject to share with honourable senators my impression—and, I hope, the impression of other senators who were members of the delegation—of the Australian experience.

Since I gave that response in this chamber, I have decided that I should like to intervene on the subject of an elected Senate for Canada, as it relates to my impression gained in Australia, in the debate on this inquiry. Several aspects of the so-called "Lamontagne Report" would compare with my views on the question of an elected Senate for Canada.

Therefore, I am respectfully asking Senator Macdonald to allow the order to stand in my name and, within the next week or so, I hope to make an intervention along the lines I have just described.

Hon. John M. Macdonald: That is perfectly in order.

The Hon. the Speaker pro tem: Is it agreed, honourable senators?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

Hon. Jack Marshall: Do the Australians have a national holiday called "Dominion Day" or "Australia Day"?

Senator Frith: They call it "Australia Day." You picked the wrong country to ask about.

Senator Marshall: I should have known better.

Order stands.

The Senate adjourned until tomorrow at 2 p.m.
