

re-energize the economy to deal with that moral difficulty confronting Canada. We will commit every resource and all of our talents, and we hope the co-operation of the House of Commons, to reduce unemployment so that Canadians can find that degree of prosperity they need. You should be applauding that.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

* * *

● (1500)

SOCIAL SECURITY

PREPARATION OF DISCUSSION PAPERS

Right Hon. John N. Turner (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance. In his discussion paper *A New Direction for Canada* he refers to some directional and discussion papers which include subjects like old age pensions and the family allowance. His colleague, the Minister of National Health and Welfare, indicated that those papers were to be published before mid-December. Have those papers been withheld and rewritten as a result of questioning in this House of Commons—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra):—as a result of the public furor and anxiety in the country—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Turner (Vancouver Quadra):—and the concern now being expressed by the backbenches of the Conservative Party?

Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Finance): No, they have not, Mr. Speaker.

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CLERK OF PETITIONS' REPORTS

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that the petitions presented by Hon. Members on Wednesday, December 19, 1984, meet the requirements of the Standing Orders as to form.

* * *

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that a message has been received from the Senate informing this House that the Senate has passed the following Bills without amendment: Bill C-5, an Act to amend the Freshwater Fish Marketing Act; Bill C-7, an Act to amend the Income Tax Act and related Statutes; Bill C-8 an Act to amend the Petroleum and Gas Revenue Tax Act; and Bill C-14, an Act to authorize

Committee Reports

the making of orders relating to the production of records and the giving of information for the purposes of proceedings in foreign tribunals, relating to measures of foreign states or foreign tribunals affecting international trade or commerce and in respect of the recognition and enforcement in Canada of certain foreign judgments obtained in antitrust proceedings.

* * *

THE ROYAL ASSENT

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that a communication has been received which is as follows:

Rideau Hall,
Government House,
Ottawa.

December 20, 1984

Sir:

I have the honour to inform you that the Honourable Willard Z. Estey, Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Canada, in his capacity as Deputy Governor General, will proceed to the Senate chamber today, the 20th day of December, at 3:00 p.m. for the purpose of giving the Royal Assent to certain Bills.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Edmond Joly de Lotbinière,
Administrative Secretary
to the Governor General.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

REFORM OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

PRESENTATION OF FIRST REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE

Hon. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present the first report of the Special Committee on the Reform of the House of Commons to which, pursuant to Standing Order 69(13), the Committee requests a comprehensive response.

It is my understanding that today's report will be printed and appended to today's Votes and Proceedings.

Mr. Speaker: I must treat that as a request that it be so. I presume there is unanimous consent for the appending. Is there unanimous consent?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

[Editor's Note: For above report see today's Votes and Proceedings.]