

Resuming the debate on the inquiry of the Honourable Senator Hastings calling the attention of the Senate to the erosion of the long standing right of access of Members of Parliament to federal penitentiaries and the final loss of that right in 1987.—(*Honourable Senator Nurgitz.*)

Hon. Nathan Nurgitz: Honourable senators, I have had a discussion with Senator Hastings, who wishes that this matter be referred to the Standing Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs so that it can be more properly examined, as opposed to debated. I indicated to him that I had no objection to that. That being the case, I so move.

The Hon. the Speaker *pro tempore*: Honourable senators, it is moved by the Honourable Senator Nurgitz, seconded by the Honourable Senator Hastings, that this matter be referred to the Standing Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs. Is it your pleasure, honourable senators, to adopt the motion?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

On motion of Senator Nurgitz, subject matter of inquiry referred to Standing Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs.

● (1440)

MEECH LAKE CONSTITUTIONAL ACCORD AND CANADIAN CHARTER OF RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS

ORDER STANDS

On the Order:

Resuming the debate on the inquiry of the Honourable Senator Beaudoin calling the attention of the Senate to the Meech Lake Constitutional Accord and to the

Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.—(*Honourable Senator Nurgitz.*)

Hon. Henry D. Hicks: May I ask a question of the senator in whose name order No. 15 stands? I wish to intervene very briefly in relation to this order and should like to do so this week, if I may. Therefore, I would ask him to consider giving me leave to make my brief remarks when the next opportunity arises.

Hon. Nathan Nurgitz: Honourable senators, I have no objection whatsoever and would certainly yield to the Honourable Senator Hicks.

Order stands.

NATIONAL DEFENCE

CONSIDERATION OF FOURTH REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE—
ORDER STANDS

On the Order:

Resuming the debate on the consideration of the Fourth and Final Report of the Special Committee of the Senate on National Defence, entitled: "Canada's Land Forces", tabled in the Senate on 31st October, 1989.—(*Honourable Senator Frith.*)

Hon. Henry D. Hicks: Honourable senators, I make the same request with respect to order No. 17, even though I realize Senator Frith is not here today. I should like to speak briefly on this order. As honourable senators might realize, my days in this chamber are numbered. Therefore, I wish to discharge what I regard as my responsibility before I no longer have the opportunity of doing so.

Order stands.

The Senate adjourned until tomorrow at 2 p.m.