

Another related factor is that a great number of bills that cannot be considered in this session will have been printed at considerable cost. It is for honourable Members to determine whether it is advisable to continue the practice where so many bills receive the usual *pro forma* First Reading and order for printing at substantial expense when Standing Orders will prevent most of these bills from ever being considered in the House. It is obvious that in many cases there is much value to having private bills circulated and considered by honourable Members of the House and interested members of the public. There are arguments on both sides of the question. The fact remains that from year to year there is an ever increasing proportion of private bills proposed by honourable Members that will never come before the House for consideration and debate.

The Standing Committee on Organization and Procedure may wish to have a look at the situation to determine whether a better procedure might be devised for the consideration of such bills.

Another aspect of the matter is that there is an increasing tendency to include money provisions in private Members' bills. Honourable Members know that the time honoured practice has been to include such proposals in the form of a private Member's motion rather than in a bill.

In many cases in the past, in order to meet the convenience of honourable Members, the consideration of the Second Reading of such bills was entered upon. It seems to the Chair that such procedure is not good Parliamentary practice.

May I enumerate a number of bills which, at first glance, appear to include money provisions. Initially, there is a bill entitled an Act respecting the employment of women in federal jurisdiction before and after childbirth, standing in the name of the honourable Member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mrs. MacInnis). Then there is an Act to amend the Farmers' Creditors Arrangement Act and also an Act to amend the BNA Acts 1867 to 1965. Then there is an Act to amend the Canada Pension Plan, standing in the name of the honourable Member for Hillsborough (Mr. Macquarrie); an Act to establish a Newfoundland tunnel authority, standing in the name of the honourable Member for Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe (Mr. Marshall); an Act to amend the Atlantic Freight Assistance Act, standing in the name of the honourable Member for Moncton (Mr. Thomas); an Act respecting fares for disabled persons on federal modes of transport, standing in the name of the honourable Member for Oxford (Mr. Nesbitt); an Act to amend the National Housing Act, standing in the name of the honourable Member for Hamilton West (Mr. Alexander); and an Act to provide for the constitution of a federal transport commission of inquiry, standing in the name of the honourable Member for Dartmouth-Halifax East (Mr. Forrestall).

There are many other such bills, and I am sure honourable Members would not want me to go through the whole list. I will stop my enumeration here.

The Chair considers that in the drafting of bills more care should be exercised to ensure that financial provisions are not included in such bills. When the aforementioned bills and any others which, on closer examination, appear to contain financial provisions are called for debate, I propose to examine the question of whether or not such bills are in order from a procedural standpoint.

At that time honourable Members who have sponsored these bills will have an opportunity to satisfy the Chair that the bills are in order from such standpoint before proceeding to a substantive argument about the merits of the bills.

I apologize to honourable Members for taking up so much of their time but this is a matter which, as they know, has given some past worry to a number of honourable Members interested in the procedural aspects of the matter.

Finally, may I refer to the practice which has been developing in some cases of including as purported explanatory notes to the provisions of such bills what are, in reality, matters of debate. In one instance there is included, as an explanatory note, a statement of some length made April 20, 1970, by the occupant of the Chair. That statement may have a place in our proceedings but it does not strike me as providing an explanation of any provision of the bill to which it refers. In another case there is an interesting quotation of six or more paragraphs from a statement made in 1796 by George Washington.

With all due respect to that late, great and honoured gentleman I suggest that the inclusion of such material under the guise of an explanatory note offends the rules of this House.

May I conclude by asking the House whether there is unanimous consent to order that all private Members' bills listed on today's Order Paper be deemed to have been introduced, given First Reading, ordered to be printed and allowed to stand for a Second Reading at the next sitting of the House, subject of course to a subsequent examination as to the regularity of each bill.

Accordingly, by unanimous consent, the following bills were deemed to have been introduced, read the first time and ordered to be printed, and ordered for a second reading at the next sitting of the House:

Bill C-6, An Act respecting the Employment of Women in Federal Jurisdiction before and after Childbirth.—*Mrs. MacInnis.*