

Canadian Overseas Telecommunication Corporation Act

Some hon. Members: No.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Morin): All those in favour will please say yea.

Some hon. Members: Yea.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Morin): All those opposed will please say nay.

Some hon. Members: Nay.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Morin): In my opinion the yeas have it.

And more than five members having risen:

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Morin): Is it the wish of the House that the members be called in now or that the vote be deferred?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): I wonder if the House might agree that the vote should be deferred until eight o'clock on Monday night.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Morin): Is it agreed that the vote be deferred until Monday night at eight o'clock?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

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CANADIAN OVERSEAS TELECOMMUNICATION CORPORATION ACT

AMENDMENT TO CHANGE NAME OF CORPORATION

Hon. Jeanne Sauvé (for the Minister of Communications) moved that Bill S-27, to amend the Canadian Overseas Telecommunication Corporation Act, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications.

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[Translation]

LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS SUPERANNUATION ACT

MEASURE TO PROVIDE SUPERANNUATION BENEFITS TO LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (for President of Treasury Board) moved that Bill C-23, to provide for the payment of superannuation benefits to Lieutenant Governors, reported with amendments by the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates, be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Eymard Corbin (Madawaska-Victoria): Madam Speaker—

[The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Morin).]

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Morin): I regret to advise the hon. member, but at this stage of the report, no debate is supposed to take place. A debate can be allowed only on third reading.

Mr. Sharp (for Mr. Chrétien) moved that Bill C-23 be read the third time and do pass.

Mr. Corbin: Madam Speaker, I would like to assure my colleagues, especially the Parliamentary Secretary to the House leader, that he does not have to take a pill, I will be brief and his bill will be passed shortly.

However, I would like to take this opportunity to repeat what some of my colleagues and I have already said during the consideration of the bill in committee. We pointed out to the President of Treasury Board, mainly responsible for the introduction and passage of that bill that in our opinion, he did not go far enough as far as the pensions of Lieutenant Governors are concerned.

In committee, we tried to convince the President of the Treasury Board to change the text of the bill itself to take into account the particularly difficult circumstances under which the lieutenant governors of Quebec and their families took over the functions they now assume.

But the bureaucrats won that inning and, unfortunately, the President of the Treasury Board refused to follow the advice shared by most of the members of the committee. He won. But I am giving him another chance, and urge him to reconsider his position, Madam Speaker, because of the unfairness of the situation. Of course, I am speaking in relative terms with regard to the lieutenant governor of New Brunswick who fills his post, in some regards, at his own expense. He has to dig in his pockets to pay some of the expenses incurred in the course of his duties, duties which he has to perform and which he is expected to perform in view of his position.

I should have been remiss in my duty had I not pointed this out today. I know that several of my colleagues from New Brunswick on the other side support the stand we have taken, and I think it is most unfortunate that the procedure should not allow us to amend the bill as we would have wished with regard to the lieutenant governors of New Brunswick and Quebec.

One of my colleagues may wish to add to what I have said. That is why, Madam Speaker, I now bring my remarks to a close.

● (1550)

[English]

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Morin): Is the House ready for the question?

Mr. Maurice A. Dionne (Northumberland-Miramichi): Madam Speaker, I will speak without the sound system operating. I wish to concur in the remarks of my colleague, the hon. member for Madawaska-Victoria (Mr. Corbin), and say I too regret that the bill has not been amended. I think the incumbents of the positions to which he referred have given over a long period dedicated public service, and I regret that the amendments are not made.