

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, October 22, 1968

The house met at 2.30 p.m.

THE ROYAL ASSENT

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to inform the house that I have received the following communication:

October 22, 1968

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the Right Honourable J. R. Cartwright, P.C., M.C., Chief Justice of Canada, acting as Deputy of His Excellency the Governor General, will proceed to the Senate chamber today, the 22nd October at 5.45 p.m. for the purpose of giving royal assent to certain bills.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your obedient servant,
Louis-Frémont Trudeau
Brigadier General

Assistant Secretary to the Governor General

CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

TABLING OF REPORT FOR 1967-68

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, by leave of the house I should like to table, in English and in French, the report for the year 1967-68 of the Canadian International Development Agency.

Mr. Speaker: Has the hon. member leave to table this document?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORTS BY PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): I have a question for the President of the Privy Council, Mr. Speaker, in his capacity as government house leader. In view of the fact the last two reports of the Auditor General have not been fully considered by the public accounts committee, and a further report of the Auditor General is expected in January of next year, will the house leader proceed as rapidly as possible with arrangements for the organization of the committee

on public accounts and reference to that committee of the reports of the Auditor General which have not been fully considered?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (President of the Privy Council): Yes, Mr. Speaker. If the Leader of the Opposition will consult *Votes and Proceedings* he will note that the public accounts committee has been called to meet Thursday next for organizational purposes. I will be glad to facilitate the means of referring business to it right away.

REQUEST FOR PRIORITY FOR FARM CREDIT LEGISLATION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar): My question is directed to the President of the Privy Council. Will he consider making Bill No. C-113 the first order of the business today so that western farmers can get the increased cash advances on farm stored grain at the earliest possible opportunity? This question is urgent because wheat sales—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member has asked a question.

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (President of the Privy Council): It was our hope that both Bill No. C-113 and the bill with regard to farm credit might have been passed by last night; in fact that was the proposal we made to hon. gentlemen opposite. I feel we should proceed with today's order of business as called and dispose of the Post Office Act as early as possible and dispose of all stages of the farm credit bill as early as possible. Then I am sure the hon. member will be eager to facilitate that procedure as well as the bill to which he referred.

Mr. Gleave: Could we have an assurance that, of all the farm credit bills to come before us, this particular bill will receive priority as soon as possible?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Well, the farm credit bill will receive priority just as soon as the Post Office Act has been dealt with.

Mr. Ed Schreyer (Selkirk): Will the minister consider giving priority to the cash advances legislation, since it is not controversial?

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member is asking a question which was asked yesterday.