REFERENCE TO COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND REPORT OF AUDITOR GENERAL

On the order: Government notices of motion:

January 20-The Minister of Finance-the following proposed motion:--

That the public accounts, volumes I and II and report of the Auditor General for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1980, and the financial statements of the Canada Council and the report of the Auditor General thereon for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1960, be referred to the standing committee on public accounts.

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to section 2 of standing order 21 this government notice of motion is transferred to and ordered for consideration under government orders at the next sitting of the house.

MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

RICHELIEU RIVER-REPORT ON DREDGING

Motion No. 20-Mr. Dupuis:

For a copy of each of the reports made by the economists and engineers of the Department of Transport, in connection with the possible dredging of the Richelieu river between the St. Lawrence river and lake Champlain.

Hon. Leon Balcer (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, on the two previous occasions when this motion was called I explained that the papers requested are departmental reports and therefore privileged under the established practice of the house. In the circumstances I would hope the hon. member would agree to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Dupuis: Could I have the motion stand?

Mr. Speaker: The motion has been put. With the consent of the house it may stand or be withdrawn.

Mr. Dupuis: I will withdraw.

Mr. Speaker: The mover of the motion requests leave to withdraw the motion. Is it the pleasure of the house that the motion be withdrawn?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Order discharged and motion withdrawn.

POST OFFICE BUILDING, RESERVE MINES, N.S.

Motion No. 29-Mr. Argue:

For a copy of all correspondence, telegrams, resolutions, petitions, and other documents exchanged between the federal government and the municipal council of Reserve Mines, Nova Scotia, the government of the province of Nova Scotia, and any other persons or organizations since January 1, 1960, regarding the erection of a post office building on the Sydney road at Reserve Mines, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia.

Hon. D. J. Walker (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, we accept this motion subject to the usual reservation.

Motions for Papers

Mr. Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the house to adopt the motion subject to the reservation expressed by the minister?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

POST OFFICE BUILDING, RESERVE MINES, N.S.

Motion No. 30-Mr. Argue:

For a copy of all correspondence, telegrams and other documents exchanged between the Prime Minister, the Postmaster General and the Minister of Public Works since January 1, 1960, regarding the erection of a post office building on Sydney road at Reserve Mines, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia.

Hon. D. J. Walker (Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, I would ask that the hon. member for Assiniboia withdraw this motion in view of the fact that these documents are privileged.

Mr. Argue: Mr. Speaker, the minister is completely accurate in making this suggestion. I was rather surprised that the motion got to this position and, for the reasons the minister has given, I shall be very happy to withdraw.

Mr. Speaker: As the motion has not been placed before the house and the hon. member who is the mover consents to its withdrawal, it is withdrawn.

Order discharged and motion withdrawn.

PENSION VESTING FOR INCOME TAX PURPOSES

Motion No. 33-Mr. Herridge:

For a copy of all telegrams, correspondence or other documents exchanged between the Minister of Finance and the Minister of National Revenue or any officials of their departments and any officers of any trade union with respect to pension vesting for income tax purposes, since January 1, 1958.

Hon. Noel Dorion (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker we accept the motion in so far as it has to do with documents exchanged between the federal government and organizations and persons outside the government.

Mr. Herridge: I accept that condition.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member who moves the motion accepts the reservation expressed by the minister. Subject to this reservation, is it the pleasure of the house to adopt the motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

FLAGS OF CANADA

PROVISION FOR REFERENDUM ON ADOPTION OF CANADIAN FLAG

On the order: Notices of motions:

November 17-Mr. Regnier-the following proposed resolution:-