24 SENATE

will wish to discuss certain points. The matters raised by the Canadian Manufacturers Association have been carefully considered by representatives of the association and officials of the department, and substantial agreement has been reached in respect of most of them. I am sure that honourable senators will want to consider these points. If the house sees fit to give the bill second reading it is my intention to refer it to the Standing Committee on Public Health and Welfare, and I would ask that this committee meet as soon as possible in order to set down dates for the hearing of witnesses.

Hon. Mr. Roebuck: Have we got copies of the bill before us?

Hon. Mr. Robertson: Yes. The bill has been printed and has just been received.

Hon. Mr. Roebuck: It is unfair to ask us to give second reading to a bill that we have not even read.

Hon. Mr. Robertson: I would point out that this house gave second reading to a bill last year which was substantially the same as the one now before us, but I am quite willing that second reading be postponed, if that is what my honourable friend from Toronto-Trinity (Hon. Mr. Roebuck) wishes. It is not urgent that second reading be given today, although I should like the bill to be referred to committee some time this week.

Hon. Mr. Roebuck: I do not know that I wish to speak on the bill, but I do not want to pass something—

Hon. Mr. Robertson: Then I shall ask the Whip to adjourn the debate.

Hon. Mr. Roebuck: As I say, I do not know that I want to speak on the bill, but I shall move the adjournment of the debate myself.

The motion was agreed to, and the debate was adjourned.

The Senate adjourned until tomorrow at 3 p.m.