

Procedure Committee Report

last. For manufacturing alone an increase of 23 per cent is indicated. Substantially higher outlays are expected in both the financial and commercial sectors.

It is estimated that housing starts will approximate last year's record level, and with the large carryover of unfinished houses total expenditure on housing should be about 11 per cent higher. Capital programs in the public sector are up quite sharply. An increase of 64 per cent in outlays for new university facilities and much larger highway programs in the provinces are important factors contributing to the expected 20 per cent increase in capital spending by institutions and governments.

The total program involves a 15 per cent increase in outlays for new construction of all types and an 11 per cent increase in expenditure for new machinery and equipment. The continuing emphasis being placed upon modernization and expansion of production facilities throughout the economy is significant, not only as a stimulus to demand but as an expression of the expectation of the business community of larger markets in the future.

PROCEDURE**MOTION FOR CONCURRENCE IN FIFTEENTH REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE**

The house resumed, from Friday, December 18, 1964, consideration of the motion of Mr. Olson:

That the fifteenth report of the special committee on procedure and organization, presented to the house on December 14, 1964, be now concurred in.

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I think I would be remiss in my duty if I did not at the outset of my remarks in respect to this motion pay my respects to the hon. member in whose name the motion stands, and to the members of the subcommittee who with him laboured very hard and diligently to bring this report before the house. I think it is no secret, particularly to Your Honour, the extent to which the production of the report required a great deal of hard work and concentration.

There was consideration of the committee structure in the United Kingdom, in the United States, in other commonwealth countries and in some of the continental democracies of Europe. There were study papers prepared which included a questionnaire passed around to hon. members of this house. All this material had to be received, assessed and evaluated, and here lies the unanimous result

on the part of the subcommittee of their consideration of this particular problem.

I should also say that for this party the hon. member for Edmonton West, a former speaker of the house, made a very valuable contribution to the work of the subcommittee. Unfortunately he has commitments which prevent him from being here today, but he has asked me to say on his behalf that this particular report is one that was unanimously agreed to, that it bears his endorsement, and that as a member of the committee he would have been delighted to be here this afternoon to participate in this debate.

Now, Mr. Speaker, you know as well as anybody on the special committee on procedure that we considered a great number of matters, and I for one am disappointed that as a result of these deliberations what we have been able to persuade the house to accept has been very minimal. It seems to me, having in mind that 14 members of the house sat under the distinguished chairmanship of Your Honour to consider these questions and to try to persuade members of the house that we need certain improvements with regard to the rules which now prevail, that if a report of this nature is not accepted, if we can produce nothing other than the small though not unimportant changes which have already been accepted by the house, we may as well toss the problem over our shoulders and decide the house does not want to change in a substantial way the rules which we now have.

This is the issue we must face. Each session we hear pious protestations of the need for reform. We hear speeches made designating a particular chapter and verse where these reforms can take place, yet when we come to the end of the session and assess what we have achieved we find a dismal record. If I read the temper of the people of this country correctly they are demanding that substantial changes be made in the manner in which we continue to operate the business which we as their agents are charged with the responsibility of operating, not as a private debating club but as members of parliament acting on behalf of the people of Canada, and I feel we must comply with what they desire or perhaps they will send others here who will make the changes which we do not make.

I pause here, before I go on to deal with some of the specific steps I wish to mention, to say that what has been produced in the fifteenth report is not something which will automatically result in changes in the stand-