

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

JUSTICE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

Second report of Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs—Mr. MacGuigan.

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STATISTICS ACT

AMENDMENT RESPECTING PROVISION OF INFORMATION

Miss Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-452, to amend the Statistics Act.

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Miss MacDonald: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to remove from the Statistics Act the penalty provisions contained in section 29 which are directed against those individuals who refuse to answer questions on Statistics Canada surveys. The two exceptions to that bill would be questions contained in any census of population or agriculture. This bill is especially relevant at this time in view of a court case in British Columbia in which a citizen was charged with refusing to provide census information about what she considered personal matters. The decision in that case is pending.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

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BANK ACT

AMENDMENT RESPECTING STANDARDIZATION OF BANKING FORMS

Mr. Stewart Leggatt (New Westminster) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-453, to amend the Bank Act (standard forms).

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Leggatt: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to ensure that the forms used by banks in their dealings with the public are standardized as far as possible and kept up to date with provincial law. The basic problem is that under search and seizure legislation in the provinces the banks have failed to amend their own forms to comply with provincial law, and the public, in dealing with the banks, are being misled by the forms. As a result they have to pay for deficiencies after seizures. This bill would correct that.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

Business of the House

GOVERNMENT SPENDING PROGRAMS DISCLOSURE ACT

MEASURE RESPECTING PROVISION OF ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-454, to provide for an economic impact statement to accompany certain Bills and regulations.

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, this bill provides that when any bill or statutory instrument is introduced dealing with the appropriation of public funds, it shall be accompanied by an economic impact statement giving the initial and ongoing cost, a cost-benefit analysis, and other related information.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

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ANNUAL REPORTS ACT

MEASURE RESPECTING PROVISION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND RELATED INFORMATION

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-455, to provide for the inclusion of certain information in the annual reports of government departments and agencies.

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, this bill provides that when by law any government minister or agency is compelled to file an annual report, in addition to the usual exculpatory, self-serving and glossy material which finds its way into the report, there shall be as well a proper financial statement with any comments made by the Auditor General or any committee, along with other related information, so the public will know what is going on in that department or agency.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Before we leave this part of the proceedings, Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the government House leader would let me know whether he is in a position to indicate to us what business, its priority and the order if he can, the House will be dealing with when it returns on January 23. We have discussed that subject and the government House leader indicated that he would do his best to comply. If it is impossible to do so today, I will be very pleased to stand down and ask the question tomorrow.

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, I think I can provide much of the answer today. When we return in January I propose to