

● (1425)

Then when John Turner became the Minister of Finance and appeared before the committee on the income tax bill and announced the scope and effect of a number of amendments, he said, "This is the last of the amendments in respect of which the undertaking was given by the previous minister that they would be included in a subsequent bill."

I recall an incident when Donald Macdonald, as Minister of Finance, appeared before the committee in connection with a proposed amendment to the income tax bill which he agreed should be changed. He said, "I will undertake not only to change it at the next session, but in the meantime I will make use of a provision in the Financial Administration Act which permits me temporarily to accomplish the same result."

So all our experience has indicated that when we are given an undertaking it is sincerely given and observed; and, of course, what underlies all that is what would happen if a minister gave an undertaking of that kind and did not implement it the next time around. I would speculate on what might happen. He might have a very difficult time before our committee.

**Hon. David Walker:** Honourable senators, as a critic from the opposition who has been present throughout all the proceedings, I would certainly agree with my learned friend that the bill should be reported without amendment with—and this is very important—the agreement of the minister to accept further amendments.

Having heard the chairman cross-examine the minister, I can assure honourable senators that the minister is hog-tied. He will have to do what he undertakes to do, and I am sure he will do so willingly.

Motion agreed to and bill read third time and passed.

## BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

### TRIBUTE TO COMMITTEE

**Hon. Raymond J. Perrault (Leader of the Government):** Honourable senators, on behalf of the government I wish to thank our distinguished Senator Hayden and the members of this committee for their outstanding work with respect to the Bank Act revisions. It has been a detailed and arduous process, which has taken place over a great length of time. The Standing Senate Committee on Banking, Trade and Commerce has worked with its usual diligence and competence. At a time when constitutional reform, including the role of the Senate and the other place, is under consideration by parliamentarians and many other people, the Senate has again demonstrated that as a body of sober second thought, and in a less partisan manner than the other place, it does extremely valuable work for the people of Canada.

**Hon. Senators:** Hear, hear.

## ROYAL ASSENT

### NOTICE

**The Hon. the Speaker** informed the Senate that the following communication had been received:

RIDEAU HALL  
OTTAWA  
GOVERNMENT HOUSE

November 26, 1980

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the Honourable Brian Dickson, Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Canada, in his capacity as Deputy Governor General, will proceed to the Senate Chamber today, the 26th day of November, at 5.00 p.m., for the purpose of giving Royal Assent to a bill.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,  
Edmond Joly de Lotbinière  
Administrative Secretary to the  
Governor General

The Honourable  
The Speaker of the Senate,  
Ottawa.

● (1430)

## LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ENTITLED "CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE CANADIAN CONSTITUTION" TABLED

**Hon. H. Carl Goldenberg:** Honourable senators, I have the honour to table the report of the Standing Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs entitled, "Certain Aspects of the Canadian Constitution."

With the report, honourable senators, I am tabling two research papers, to which reference is made in the report, entitled, respectively, "Standing Senate Committees," and "Special Senate Committees."

**Hon. Duff Roblin (Deputy Leader of the Opposition):** Honourable senators, I wonder if I might be allowed to make a remark or two about the procedure that we have just followed in connection with this report. I understand that a press conference is being held in respect of this matter, and I would like to make a comment about that.

The Honourable Senator Lamontagne did me the courtesy yesterday to tell me that this document would be released to the press in a lock-up condition at 1.15 p.m. today, and that he would be conducting a press conference at 2 o'clock. I listened to that statement, and I must confess that while I did not give my consent, because it was not asked in that sense, neither did