

THE SENATE

Friday, January 31, 1958

The Senate met at 3 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers.

ROYAL ASSENT

NOTICE

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, I have the honour to inform you that I have received the following message from the Secretary to the Governor General:

GOVERNMENT HOUSE

Ottawa

January 31, 1958.

Sir:

I have the honour to inform you that the Honourable Patrick Kerwin, P.C., Chief Justice of Canada, acting as Deputy of His Excellency the Governor General, will proceed to the Senate Chamber today, the 31st January, at 5.45 p.m., for the purpose of giving Royal Assent to certain bills.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. F. Delaute,
Secretary to the Governor General.
(Administrative).

The Honourable
The Speaker of the Senate,
Ottawa.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: May I ask a question of the Acting Leader of the Government (Hon. Mr. Aseltine)? If the Deputy of His Excellency is coming here for any other purpose than is stated in the letter just read, shall we receive prior notice of that? Or may he be coming here this afternoon for another purpose than is stated in the letter?

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: Don't ask me; I don't know anything about it.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: May I ask a supplementary question of the Acting Leader of the Government? Does he expect the Leader of the Government (Hon. Mr. Haig) to be in his place this afternoon and able to give me that information?

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: I do not know what information he will give you, but he will be here a little later on.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: Thank you.

CANADA-AUSTRALIA INCOME TAX AGREEMENT BILL

AMENDMENT CONCURRED IN BY COMMONS

The Hon. the Speaker informed the Senate that a message had been received from the

House of Commons returning Bill 170, intitled: "An Act to implement an agreement between Canada and Australia for the avoidance of double taxation with respect to Income Tax", and acquainting the Senate that the Commons have agreed to the amendment made by the Senate to the said bill, without amendment.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES BILL

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

Hon. William H. Golding, Acting Chairman of the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce, presented the report of the committee on Bill 249.

The report was read by the Clerk as follows:

The Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce, to whom was referred the Bill (249) intitled: "An Act to amend the Northwest Territories Act", have in obedience to the order of reference of January 30, 1958, examined the said bill, and now report the same without any amendment.

The report was adopted.

THIRD READING

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the third time?

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: I move the third reading now.

Hon. Arthur W. Roebuck: Honourable senators, all here will remember the remarks made in this chamber on second reading of this measure. The bill was referred to committee, and was considered at some length this morning. The Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources, who has jurisdiction over the Northwest Territories, and Mr. MacLeod of the Department of Justice, were present, and the points I raised yesterday were discussed.

Honourable senators will remember that the bill would give the commissioner certain powers for the borrowing of money for territorial, municipal or local purposes and for the lending of money to municipalities and school districts in the Territories, and that under the bill he would require the approval of the Governor in Council for borrowing money but not for lending. I expressed the view in committee, as I did in this chamber yesterday, that he should not be empowered either to borrow or to lend money without the approval of the Governor in Council. The minister pointed out that in the past the commissioner has performed these services, and moreover that it was the desire of the present administration, as indeed it had been of the last administration, to give to the local authorities in the Territories a greater autonomy than they have enjoyed hitherto,