

*From the Retail Council of Canada:*

Mr. Alasdair J. McKichan, President;

Mr. Robert Berilla, President, Canadian Grocery Distributors' Institute;

Mr. Arthur Southwood, Co-Chairman of the Working Group on Scales in the Retail Food Industry.

*From Metric Steel (The Task Force for Metric Conversion in the Canadian Iron and Steel Industry):*

Mr. P. M. McCooey, Administrator.

*From the Consumers' Association of Canada:*

Mrs. M. Lister, Chairman, Metric Advisory Committee.

*From the Canadian Federation of Independent Business:*

Mr. John F. Bullock, President;

Mr. James R. Conrad, Director, Policy and Research.

*From the Canadian Feed Manufacturers' Association:*

Mr. Curtis L. Friend, Executive Secretary.

*From the American National Metric Council:*

Mr. Adrian G. Weaver, Chairman;

Dr. M. O'Hagan, Executive Director.

*From the Canadian Labour Congress:*

Mr. J. Morris, President;

Mr. Ron W. Lang, Director, Legislation Branch.

Throughout its deliberations, your Committee was ably assisted by Mr. Paul C. Boire, Executive Director of the Metric Commission, who acted as technical advisor to the Committee.

After study of the briefs submitted and extensive questioning of witnesses by the members of the Committee, there appeared to be much support for the approval of the government's program on guideline dates for metric conversion.

Your Committee affirms its support of the policies and principles contained in the White Paper on Metric Conversion tabled in the House of Commons in January 1970.

Your Committee affirms and recommends the voluntary adoption of the International System of Units (SI) as the single coherent system of measurement units to be used in Canada.

Your Committee recognizes that for a voluntary program of metric conversion to be carried out effectively and efficiently there must be an overall program of guideline dates and is of the opinion that the implementation of such a program would be greatly encouraged by support from Parliament and all levels of government.

Your Committee recognizes that dissemination of information to the public on metric conversion is an essential element in the success of a voluntary program and therefore recommends that the Government give consideration to the advisability of providing adequate funds to the Metric Commission to ensure that the public is appropri-

ately informed of the remaining phases of planning, scheduling and implementation of this program.

Your Committee recognizes that financial difficulties may be encountered in changing over to the metric system and therefore recommends that the Government give consideration to the advisability of providing the following for the purchase of parts and other equipment necessary for metric conversion:

- a) exemption from sales tax and import duties;
- b) accelerated write-off privileges;
- c) loans of adequate term at a reasonable rate of interest;
- d) the implementation of a tax credit system for employees who must purchase metric tools.

Your Committee is of the opinion that it is essential that the Metric Commission report progress on the implementation of this program on an annual basis to the House and therefore recommends that an annual report on metric conversion be provided by the Metric Commission and that officials of the Metric Commission appear before this Committee annually.

Your Committee recommends that the House consider the advisability of giving approval to the program of guideline dates for metric conversion.

Your Committee further recommends that the government give consideration to the advisability of bringing forward legislation to provide an additional base for metric conversion.

A copy of the relevant Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence (*Issues Nos. 59, 60, 61, 75, 76, 77, 78 and 79*) is tabled.

(*The Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence accompanying the Report recorded as Appendix No. 142 to the Journals*).

A petition was presented by the honourable Member for New Westminster (Mr. Leggatt).

Mr. Lang, a Member of the Queen's Privy Council, laid upon the Table.—Copies of letters, dated December 11 and 12, 1975, addressed by Keith Spicer, Esq., Commissioner of Official Languages to Sylvain Cloutier, Esq., Deputy Minister of Transport, relating to the suspension of three air traffic controllers at Dorval Air Traffic Control Centre. (English and French).—Sessional Paper No. 301-7/34.

Bill C-69, An Act to amend the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1971, as reported (with amendments) from the Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration, was again considered at the report stage.

Whereupon the House resumed debate on the motion of Mr. Alexander, seconded by Mr. Paproski,—That Bill C-69, An Act to amend the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1971, be amended by deleting Clause 10.

And on the motion of Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre), seconded by Mr. Broadbent,—That Bill C-69, An