Motions

Mr. Rodriguez: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this Bill is to correct a provision in the Canada Pension Plan Act which I think is highly discriminatory. It relates to age discrimination. The provision requires that the spouse of a person who is receiving the Canada Pension and dies must have reached the age of 35 before being able to collect the survivor's benefits. I want that age stipulation to be removed from the Bill in order that the spouse receive the death benefit irrespective of age.

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

LOBBY REGISTRATION ACT

MEASURE TO ENACT

Hon. James A. McGrath (St. John's East) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-248, an Act to register lobbyists.

Mr. Speaker: Shall the Hon. Member have leave to introduce the Bill?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, this Bill flows naturally from the recommendations of the Special Committee on the Reform of the House of Commons. The Bill provides for the registration of lobbyists and a declaration by them stating in whose interests they are working. It also imposes a fine and a disqualification from lobbying for those convicted of evading the provisions of this Bill.

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

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL DEFENCE—CONCURRENCE IN THIRD REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, there have been consultations between the Parties with respect to three particular matters. I will deal with them seriatum. I think you will find that there is unanimous consent of the House to receive a motion at this time and to accept it unanimously at this time without debate.

The first motion is with respect to the Committee on External Affairs and National Defence. It is: that the third report of the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence, tabled on Thursday, June 27, 1985, be concurred in.

Hon. Herb Gray (Windsor West): Mr. Speaker, I would like the Government House Leader (Mr. Hnatyshyn) to put on the record of the House what the motion refers to. Does it refer to the interests of the committee in travelling to France?

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Yes.

Mr. Gray (Windsor West): I want the Government House Leader to confirm that there is some shortening of the period involved for the travel such that it would involve only five sitting days of the House. Was the motion put in those terms? I did not think the original motion was in those terms.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: Mr. Speaker, my colleague, the House Leader of the Official Opposition (Mr. Gray), is correct. The motion does not provide for the understanding that has been arrived at among the Parties. I will confirm now that, notwithstanding the report of the committee, the duration of the visit will not exceed five sitting days. This is the only method in which we can proceed at this point in time, the report having been tabled. As suggested, there was a clear and firm understanding among the Parties. That is quite satisfactory to us. We will allow the committee to travel to France at the request and invitation of its counterpart in France. It will arrange its affairs in order to deal with the business which must be dealt with while ensuring that its members are not away for more than five days. However, it may extend over a weekend. In that way they will be able to accommodate their agenda.

Mr. Speaker: Does the President of the Privy Council have unanimous consent to introduce his motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the terms of the motion. Shall the motion carry?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

• (1220)

MULTICULTURALISM—ORDER OF REFERENCE OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (President of the Privy Council): The next motion relates to the new standing committee. I think you will find unanimous consent to receive this motion and it will pass without debate. It is an amendment to the Standing Orders related to the Standing Committee on Multiculturalism:

That Standing Order 69(1) be amended by adding the following new sub-section:

"(u) Multiculturalism"

PERMANENT ORDER OF REFERENCE

That the permanent order of reference for the Standing Committee on Multiculturalism be as follows:

That the Standing Committee on Multiculturalism be empowered to encourage and monitor the implementation of the principles of the federal multiculturalism policy throughout the Government of Canada, and in particular.

- (1) to encourage the departments and agencies of the federal government to reflect the multicultural/multiracial diversity of the nation; and
- (2) to examine existing and new programs and policies of federal departments and agencies to encourage sensitivity to multicultural concerns and to preserve and enhance the multicultural/multiracial reality of our nation; and