

## THE SENATE

Thursday, June 11, 1981

The Senate met at 2 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers.

[Translation]

### PRIVILEGE

STATEMENT BY SENATOR DESCHATELETS

**Hon. Jean-Paul Deschatelets:** Honourable senators, I rise on a question of personal privilege.

This morning my attention was drawn to an article published in the newspaper *The Citizen*, under the byline of columnist Richard Gwyn, in which it is alleged that, on Wednesday morning, June 10, I was pressured by the Speaker of the Senate, the Honourable Jean Marchand. I insist on denying that allegation which is altogether contrary to the facts.

It is obvious, of course, and for reasons which everybody will understand, that the content of the statement I read yesterday, as well as the date and the hour when it was to be made, had to be kept secret, except from our Speaker.

As a former Speaker, I knew from experience that before he can draft his Orders of the day the Speaker must be made aware in advance of the date, the hour and the procedure for an event of that type.

I must say here that it is quite normal that a senator who may have any kind of procedural problem should consult the Speaker about it.

Therefore I met the Speaker, not Wednesday but Tuesday afternoon around four o'clock, and I must thank him for his kindness in granting me this friendly appointment from which I derived much benefit.

I firmly deny the allegation made in that article and, honourable senators—and I do think and I hope that you know me for being straightforward—if I had a complaint to make about our Speaker it is this: when I was the occupant of the Chair and had a visit from a colleague I would normally offer him an orange juice, an apple juice or a soft drink, unfortunately, the Speaker forgot to do so this time!

**The Hon. the Speaker:** Honourable senators and dear colleagues, I thank the Honourable Senator Deschatelets and I confirm every point of his statement.

As to the apple juice and the orange juice, all I had was scotch and I did not want to be accused of attempted bribery!

● (1410)

[English]

### THE ESTIMATES

REPORT OF NATIONAL FINANCE COMMITTEE ON  
SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES (A) PRESENTED AND PRINTED AS  
AN APPENDIX

**Hon. Douglas D. Everett:** Honourable senators, I have the honour to present the report of the Standing Senate Committee on National Finance on supplementary estimates (A) laid before Parliament for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1982. I ask that the report be printed as an appendix to the *Debates of the Senate* and to the *Minutes of the Proceedings of the Senate* of this day and form part of the permanent records of this house.

**The Hon. the Speaker:** Is it agreed, honourable senators?

**Hon. Senators:** Agreed.

(For text of report see appendix, p. 2531.)

**The Hon. the Speaker:** I notice from yesterday's *Debates of the Senate* that there was no French translation of the report of the National Finance Committee presented. I know there have been some problems in that connection, and, therefore, I would ask Honourable Senator Everett if the report he has now presented is in both languages.

**Hon. Douglas D. Everett:** There was no French translation of yesterday's report when I presented it. However, I was informed that the translation was in the process of preparation and would be available for incorporation in the *Minutes of the Proceedings of the Senate*. Perhaps I should have left the presentation of that report until today because it is my intention now not to speak to it until Tuesday evening. If I have inconvenienced the house, then I apologize for doing so.

I do not have the French translation of today's report with me, but I am sure it will be available soon.

The translations department does as well as it can, but when we were preparing the report on the main estimates, which we had hoped to present on Tuesday evening, we were told the translation could not be available until Thursday morning.

I have to admit that a committee chairman should not present a report without having it in both languages. It was my hope that the translation process would be speeded up. In any event, I apologize if I have inconvenienced this house and those senators who speak French.

**The Hon. the Speaker:** Honourable senators, when shall this report be taken into consideration?