

written to be sung on July 1, but was composed and written at the request of the president of the Saint-Jean-Baptiste Society of Quebec City in 1880. At that time, the president decided that it would be nice in Canada to have a fine song, and made the appropriate request of Félix Calixa Lavallée and Sir Basile Routhier, whose great grandson was Mrs. Tremblay's husband.

I must congratulate the Reform Party. Perhaps they wanted to honour the Saint-Jean-Baptiste Society of Quebec City. Each time they sing "O Canada," I will thank them on behalf of this society, which, in Quebec City, remains federalist.

Therefore, on behalf of the Saint-Jean-Baptiste Society, let us hear it for the Reform Party.

[English]

## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

### ADJOURNMENT

**Hon. B. Alasdair Graham (Deputy Leader of the Government):** Honourable senators, with leave of the Senate, and notwithstanding rule 58(1)(h), I move:

That when the Senate adjourns today, it do stand adjourned until Tuesday next, November 28, 1995, at two o'clock in the afternoon.

**The Hon. the Speaker:** Honourable senators, is leave granted?

**Hon. Senators:** Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

• (1430)

### FIREARMS BILL

#### NOTICE OF INQUIRY

**Hon. Anne C. Cools:** Honourable senators, pursuant to rules 57(1)(2) and 58(2), I give notice that I will call the attention of the Senate to the speech I had intended to give yesterday, Wednesday, November 22, 1995, during debate on the motion of the Honourable Senator Beaudoin, seconded by the Honourable Senator Grimard, for the adoption of the sixteenth report of the Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs on Bill C-68, respecting firearms and other weapons, with amendments, presented in the Senate on Monday, November 20, 1995; the speech that I was unable to give due to time limitations imposed by the Senate Order to conclude debate

by 5:15 p.m. and vote at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 22, 1995.

## NATIONAL FINANCE

### NOTICE OF MOTION TO AUTHORIZE COMMITTEE TO MEET DURING SITTING OF THE SENATE

**Hon. Lowell Murray:** Honourable senators, I give notice that on Tuesday next, November 28, 1995, I will move:

That the Standing Senate Committee on National Finance have power to sit at four o'clock in the afternoon on Tuesday, November 28, 1995, even though the Senate may then be sitting, and that rule 95(4) be suspended in relation thereto.

## QUESTION PERIOD

### JUSTICE

#### SALE OF AIRBUS AIRCRAFT TO AIR CANADA—ALLEGED CONSPIRACY TO DEFRAUD FEDERAL GOVERNMENT—DEPARTMENTAL LETTER TO SWISS AUTHORITIES—MINISTER'S INVOLVEMENT

**Hon. Marjory LeBreton:** Honourable senators, my question is for the Leader of the Government in the Senate. It is with regard to yesterday's news reports that the Minister of Justice is investigating how the media became aware of the fact that the Department of Justice had made an official representation to Swiss authorities regarding certain numbered accounts. We now know that Mr. Roger Tassé, a former Deputy Minister of Justice, now acting on behalf of former Prime Minister Mulroney, called the minister on November 4. Mr. Rock has publicly acknowledged this. We also know that Mr. Tassé wrote to Mr. Rock on November 8.

Media people have confirmed to me personally that Liberal operatives were trying to peddle this story for at least a week before the story broke on the CBC news on November 12, and in the newspapers on November 13 — in other words, from November 5 or 6 until November 12.

After Mr. Rock discussed this matter with Mr. Tassé on November 4, what did he do? With whom in his department, the Prime Minister's Office and/or his political staff did he discuss this matter?

**Hon. Joyce Fairbairn (Leader of the Government):** Honourable senators, obviously, I have no knowledge of those specific details. I will take the honourable senator's question as notice. Also, I have no knowledge of the honourable senator's comments concerning operatives peddling a story.