THE SENATE

Thursday, February 24, 1972

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

Prayers.

DOCUMENTS TABLED

Hon. Paul Martin tabled:

Capital Budget of Polymer Corporation Limited and subsidiary companies for the year ending December 31, 1972, pursuant to section 70(2) of the Financial Administration Act, chapter F-10, R.S.C., 1970, together with copy of Order in Council P.C. 1972-147, dated January 27, 1972, approving same. (English text).

Estimates for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1973.

POVERTY

REPORT OF COMMITTEE EXPENSES TABLED

Hon. David A. Croll, Chairman of the Special Senate Committee on Poverty, pursuant to Rule 84(3), tabled a report of the special expenses of the committee incurred during the Third Session of the Twenty-eighth Parliament.

THE ESTIMATES

NATIONAL FINANCE COMMITTEE EMPOWERED TO EXAMINE AND REPORT

Hon. A. Hamilton McDonald, with leave of the Senate and notwithstanding Rule 45(1)(e), moved:

That the Standing Senate Committee on National Finance be authorized to examine and report upon the expenditures proposed by the Estimates laid before Parliament for the fiscal year ending 31st March, 1973, in advance of bills based upon the said Estimates reaching the Senate.

Motion agreed to.

LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS

CHANGE IN COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Hon. A. Hamilton McDonald, with leave of the Senate and notwithstanding Rule 45(1)(h), moved:

That the name of the honourable Senator Fournier (De Lanaudière) be substituted for that of the honourable Senator Cook on the list of senators serving on the Standing Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs.

Motion agreed to.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. A. Hamilton McDonald: Honourable senators, with leave of the Senate and notwithstanding Rule 45(1)(g), I move that when the Senate adjourns today it do stand adjourned until Tuesday, February 29, 1972, at 8 o'clock in the evening.

Motion agreed to.

SCIENCE POLICY

REPORT OF COMMITTEE TABLED

Leave having been given to revert to Reports of Committees:

Hon. Maurice Lamontagne: Honourable senators, I have the honour to table the report of the Special Committee of the Senate on Science Policy, *A Science Policy for Canada,* Volume II, *Targets and Strategies for the Seventies.*

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

Hon. Mr. Lamontagne: Honourable senators, I move, seconded by the honourable Senator Connolly, that Volume II of the Report of the Special Committee of the Senate on Science Policy, tabled today, be placed on the Orders of the Day for consideration on Thursday next, March 2, 1972.

Motion agreed to.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

MOTION FOR ADDRESS IN REPLY—DEBATE CONTINUED

The Senate resumed from yesterday consideration of His Excellency the Governor General's speech at the opening of the session, and the motion of Hon. Mr. Buckwold, seconded by Hon. Miss Lapointe, for an address in reply thereto.

Hon. Hervé J. Michaud: Honourable senators, it is within the constitutional role of the Senate to maintain constant alertness to the well-being of minority groups of the country. In this respect I feel that I must put before this chamber at this time the condition of one economically disadvantaged group which is due to the inability of that group to share equally with other Canadian citizens in the wealth and the riches of the country.

In a comprehensive report by the Canadian Council on Rural Development, entitled *Rural Canada 1970: Prospects and Problems,* many of the problems of rural Canada are dealt with in a very thorough way. In my preliminary remarks I should like to echo some of the views expressed in that report. In February 1969, the Canadian Council on Rural Development held a seminar at Geneva Park near Orillia, Ontario, to discuss the basic issues in rural development. Grass-roots people from every part of Canada, many of them farmers and all of them involved in some way with the business of agriculture or with the fishing industry, attended that seminar. Discussion on every aspect of rural life lasted three days,