

Christmas period they will have some answers to give those people who are asking for refunds under the income tax provisions.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

LAW REFORM COMMISSION

TABLING OF EIGHTEENTH REPORT

Mr. Al MacBain (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada): Madam Speaker, I have the honour of tabling, in both official languages, the eighteenth report of the Law Reform Commission of Canada entitled, "Obtaining Reasons Before Applying for Judicial Scrutiny—Immigration Appeal Board".

* * *

[Translation]

METRIC COMMISSION

TABLING OF COPY OF ORDER IN COUNCIL NO. 1979-3093 AND EXCERPT FROM "CANADA GAZETTE"

Hon. André Ouellet (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Madame Speaker, in reply to the motion the Hon. Member for Red Deer (Mr. Towers) moved on December 14 under the provisions of Standing Order 43, I wish to table a copy of the Order in Council No. 1979-3093 dated November 15, as well as copies of pages 4315 and 4316 of the *Canada Gazette*, Part II, dated November 28, 1979.

TABLING OF ANNUAL REPORT

Hon. André Ouellet (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Madam Speaker, under the provisions of Standing Order 41(2), I have the honour of tabling, in both official languages, the annual report of Metric Commission Canada for the financial year ending March 31, 1982.

* * *

● (1520)

[English]

CRIMINAL CODE

AMENDMENTS RESPECTING COMPUTER CRIME

Hon. Perrin Beatty (Wellington-Dufferin-Simcoe) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-667, to amend the Criminal Code and the Canada Evidence Act in respect of computer crime.

He said: Madam Speaker, the purpose of this Bill is to address those issues related to computer use and abuse which

Order Paper Questions

have traditionally prevented the courts from adequately coming to grips with the growing problem of computer crime.

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

* * *

BANK ACT

AMENDMENT RESPECTING CONSUMER PROTECTION FROM FRAUD

Mr. Benno Friesen (Surrey-White Rock-North Delta) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-668, to amend the Bank Act (power of Inspector).

He said: Madam Speaker, for many years I know Members have been concerned about the fact that the Inspector General of Banks has no real power to initiate a prosecution if there is internal fraud within a bank. That is, the consumer is not protected against internal fraud. The passage of this Bill would empower the Inspector General of Banks to inspect within the banks for fraud so that the consumer would be protected.

* * *

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. David Smith (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 4,178 as amended; 4,488; 4,501 and 4,548.

[Text]

RCMP—PAYMENT TO WITNESSES

Question No. 4,178 (amended)—**Mr. MacKay:**

1. Is there a general RCMP policy concerning payments to witnesses in criminal trials and, if so (a) what are the details (b) does the policy involve payments beyond expenses incurred in connection with court appearances?

2. Is there a general RCMP policy concerning payments to informers and, if so, what are the details?

3. Is it the policy of the RCMP to withhold from the criminal courts the fact that the accused persons are paid informers of the RCMP?

Hon. Bob Kaplan (Solicitor General of Canada): 1. (a) Witnesses called by the Crown in criminal cases are entitled to fees and expenses in accordance with the tariffs set by provincial laws or regulations. See also payments to informers in part 2 below. RCMP policy provides for compliance with the schedules and tariffs including Section 772 of the Criminal Code to facilitate these payments.

(b) No, the general policy does not involve payments beyond expenses incurred in connection with court appearances. There is, however, additional policy which deals specifically with the Force's Witness Protection Program and is separate from those