

Senator Argue: Do we have to obtain royal assent this week? When do the cheques go out?

Mr. Cafik: It is important to the department, and to the Department of Supply and Services who have the responsibility for distributing these cheques, that we have royal assent as soon as possible. The mechanism is in place and work is going ahead on the presumption that the bill will be passed. Nothing can, in fact, be issued until royal assent is given. We are hopeful that if royal assent is received today we can ensure that all cheques are sent out for the current month.

Senator Argue: When are they normally dropped in the mail?

Miss O'Brien: They are put in the mail for delivery on the third-last banking day of each month, but they have to go to the post office several days before that for sorting.

The Deputy Chairman: Is the committee ready for the motion that we report the bill without amendment?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

Senator Croll: On behalf of the committee, may I thank Mr. Cafik for the very fine presentation he has made here this morning?

Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.

The Committee adjourned.