

is not made retroactive. There will very shortly be available a consolidation of all the orders in council up to December 31.

**Hon. Mr. Roebuck:** Is that for the province of Ontario?

**Hon. Mr. Hugessen:** No, it is a federal matter.

**Hon. Mr. Roebuck:** If some particular regulation does not get into this book to which my friend refers, would it still be valid?

**Hon. Mr. Hugessen:** I do not quite follow my friend's question.

**Hon. Mr. Roebuck:** If a certain regulation does not get into this book, will it still be regarded as an enforceable regulation?

**Hon. Mr. Aseltine:** Certainly, if it appears in the *Canada Gazette*.

**Hon. Mr. Roebuck:** There are lots of regulations which have not appeared in the *Gazette*, which nevertheless are enforceable. The case I referred to was just such an instance.

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** May I ask my honourable friend from Toronto-Trinity a question? Would it not be possible for him to move an amendment in committee to the effect that this book to which reference has been made will be the final book, and that no regulation not contained in it will be enforceable?

**Hon. Mr. Roebuck:** A jolly good idea!

**Hon. Mr. Bouffard:** Will this book be distributed in the same manner as the statutes of Canada?

**Hon. Mr. Hugessen:** That again is a question of administration, which I should think would be susceptible to answer by the departmental officials. I would hope that it would be distributed in the same manner as are the statutes of Canada.

**Hon. Mr. Haig:** I do not wish to become involved in this discussion, because I am in favour of the bill. I more or less jokingly asked a question of my honourable friend from Toronto-Trinity; but, seriously, I think the book which has been referred to should in some way be embodied in this bill. The instances mentioned by the honourable senator could be multiplied many times. The honourable senator from Inkerman (Hon. Mr. Hugessen) is a distinguished member of the Bar of his province. He knows that, in the ordinary run of business, when someone comes in for advice on a matter of this kind, the tendency has been to look at that compilation and, if the point in issue is not dealt with there, to tell the inquirer that he is not affected. Then, up turns an order, and he

finds he is affected. In the firm of which I have the honour to be a member I tried to have one of the office staff attend to these matters; but after six months I nearly had a rebellion on my hands. I was told: "Every week one of these books comes in with the statutory regulations, showing that something passed six months ago has been repealed"; or "Some person has borrowed it and has not brought it back," or "It cannot be found." There was just an uproar, and finally we gave up trying to rely on it and threw it in the waste-basket. I suggest that the leader should consult the government to see whether it is possible, when the bill gets to committee, to answer the question of the honourable member from Trinity (Hon. Mr. Roebuck). He has made a real point, one well worthy of consideration. The difficulty is a serious one.

Take, for example, the regulations affecting rent control. It is almost impossible for any lawyer to keep up to date with them; yet questions affecting the law and the administration arise every day in almost every office. At the present time copies of the regulations are sent to members of the Senate and members of the House of Commons. I do not know whether they could be circulated also to all lawyers; but they might be sent to law libraries, judges and magistrates. In Manitoba the provincial statutes are dispatched to the libraries, the legislators, senators who are lawyers, and magistrates all over the province. It is a very useful service. I suggest that, following the question raised by the honourable member from Toronto-Trinity, some effort be made to include this book under the legislation, and to bring it up to date.

**Hon. Mr. Hugessen:** It goes without saying that I will take the matter up with the officers of the department and see whether something cannot be worked out along this line. I think the honourable senator from Toronto-Trinity has made a very valuable suggestion. If the government are going to take the responsibility of printing in one book all the orders in council and regulations which in their opinion affect the public in a legislative way, they should take the further responsibility of saying that those are the only ones that do affect the public. It may be possible to work out something in accordance with this suggestion.

The motion was agreed to, and the bill was read the second time.

#### REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

**Hon. Mr. Hugessen** moved that the bill be referred to the Standing Committee on Banking and Commerce.

The motion was agreed to.