

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, January 29, 1969

The house met at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

PROCEDURE AND ORGANIZATION—CONCURRENCE IN THIRD REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present the third report of the special committee, that is to say, of the Striking Committee, to constitute the members of the Standing Committee on Procedure and Organization, with copies in English and French. By leave I propose to move the adoption of the report later this day.

[Later:]

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, by leave I move, seconded by Mr. Davis, that the third report of the Special Committee presented this day be now concurred in.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Isn't that the Striking Committee?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Yes.
Motion agreed to.

AGRICULTURE

Second and third reports of the Standing Committee on Agriculture—Mr. Beer.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

First report of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts—Mr. Hales.

[Translation]

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Fourth report of standing committee on transport and communications, in French and English—Mr. Trudel.

[Note: For text of above report, see today's Votes and Proceedings.]

[English]

PROCEDURE

MOTION TO EXTEND POWERS OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON PROCEDURE AND ORGANIZATION

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the house will

recall that on December 20 last, at the time we adopted the rule changes, it was proposed that the Standing Committee on Procedure and Organization should be given further powers to review certain matters with relation to the changes in the rules. If the house is agreeable I would like to move the following motion:

That the Standing Committee on Procedure and Organization be instructed, and hereby is instructed, to review the operation of the house under its present standing orders, and that, without restricting the generality of the foregoing, the committee be, and hereby is instructed, to give special attention to (1) the way the several standing committees study the estimates, (2) the means by which the position of the chairmen of the standing committees can be made somewhat more comparable to that of the Chairman of the Committees of the whole house, (3) the matter of ministerial attendance at the meetings of the standing committees, and (4) the means of meeting the need to make available to the standing committees stronger and more extensive support facilities.

Mr. Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the house to adopt the said motion?

• (2:10 p.m.)

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Macdonald) is quite correct in saying that this motion has been agreed to by representatives of the parties. One matter, however, has arisen since the motion was drafted. I wonder whether I could put it to the President of the Privy Council in the form of a question. Does he regard this motion as including authority for the committee to study the question of having the minutes of proceedings and evidence of the various standing committees produced a little faster than is now the case, in order to expedite the work of the committees?

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Yes; we would regard that as being included under the fourth section of the motion.

Motion agreed to.

[Translation]

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

TABLING OF REPORT RESPECTING COMMISSIONAIRES

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, I should like to table a report concerning the security agents in some of our