

I think the failure was to get the public involved in the discussion. So, honourable senators, I would hope that if the subcommittee has done nothing except awaken public opinion, that in itself is a major step forward. However, I think we must go on from there and participate in a national debate on the subject. If we can prove that what we are recommending is right, then, perhaps, we can get public support and do a proper job, which, in the opinion of the committee members, is a big one.

Hon. G. I. Smith: Honourable senators, I should like to have an opportunity to discuss this report and perhaps enlarge on some of the points the honourable senator has made. I am not prepared to do it today and, therefore, with the consent of the Senate, I move that this debate be adjourned.

On motion of Senator Smith, debate adjourned.

THE ESTIMATES 1982-83

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF NATIONAL FINANCE COMMITTEE—DEBATE CONCLUDED

The Senate resumed from Tuesday, June 22, the debate on the consideration of the Report of the Standing Senate Committee on National Finance on the Estimates laid before Parliament for the fiscal year ending March 31st, 1983.

Hon. Jacques Flynn (Leader of the Opposition): I do not intend to speak to this report. If no other senators wish to speak, I suggest that we consider the matter debated.

The Hon. the Speaker: If no other honourable senator wishes to speak, this report is considered debated.

REGULATIONS AND OTHER STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

CONSIDERATION OF ELEVENTH REPORT OF STANDING JOINT COMMITTEE—DEBATE CONCLUDED

The Senate resumed from Wednesday, March 10, the debate on the consideration of the Eleventh Report of the Standing Joint Committee on Regulations and other Statutory Instruments.

Hon. C. William Doody: Honourable senators, I want to apologize for having left this matter on the order paper for such a long time. Quite honestly, it had passed from my mind and I should have responded quite a while ago. At the time it was put on the order paper I had a rather comprehensive report ready, full of awesome and extravagant praise for our esteemed colleague, but on sober second thought I thought it better not to honour him from this side of the house as he is in enough trouble as it is.

The report, which is one of many tabled by Senator Godfrey from that prolific committee, is an extensive one and deals at great length with various matters of interest to the committee. We had several hearings in this particular regard, one of which sticks in my mind—the one dealing with a tailings problem in an area of British Columbia and the strenuous attempts we made to get the Minister of Fisheries of the day to appear before the committee and give testimony. Eventually, he did arrive, flanked by two lawyers from two departments in the grand American tradition. He said very little, obviously not wishing to incriminate himself in any way. I have no doubt that the tailings coming from the particular factory are still running into the particular reserve in British Columbia.

In any event, that is not for want of effort by Senator Godfrey and his colleagues. As I said, I wish to commend him on his efforts. It is a committee that perhaps does not have all the glamour of some of the other committees, but it does grind heavily on untutored and unlettered souls such as I from time to time. However, it is a necessary committee. I commend this report to the Senate.

The Hon. the Speaker: If no other honourable senator wishes to speak, this report is considered debated.

The Senate adjourned until tomorrow at 2 p.m.