

Introduction of Bills

[English]

ENERGY

TABLING OF ANNUAL REPORTS OF ELDORADO NUCLEAR LIMITED AND PETRO-CANADA

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, may I table in both official languages the annual reports of Eldorado Nuclear Limited and Petro-Canada for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1977.

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ANTI-INFLATION ACT

TABLING OF BOARD'S REPORTS TO ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Ed Lumley (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to subsection 17(2) of the Anti-Inflation Act, I wish to table, in both official languages, copies of four reports sent to the Administrator by the Anti-Inflation Board.

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HUMAN RIGHTS

FREE POLITICAL EXPRESSION FOR PUBLIC SERVANTS

Mr. Stuart Leggatt (New Westminster) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-440, respecting political partisanship.

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Leggatt: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this private member's bill is to amend two acts, the Human Rights Act and the Public Service Employment Act. At the present time some 500,000 public servants in Canada are denied the right to participate in the political process as a direct result of section 32(1) of that latter act. The effect of my bill would be to amend those clauses to deny only the deputy heads the right to participate in this process, and to allow those generally employed by the civil service to participate, as we all have a right to do.

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

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TAX REBATE DISCOUNTING ACT

MEASURE TO CONTROL TAX DISCOUNTERS

Hon. Warren Allmand (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-46, relating to the discounting of overpayments of tax under the Income Tax Act and related payments.

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

[Mr. Speaker.]

JUSTICE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

CONCURRENCE IN THIRD REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

On the order:

Motions—Mr. McGrath:

That the third report of the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs, presented to the House on Wednesday, March 22, 1978, be concurred in.

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, this is the fifth day that this motion has been called. By way of a point of order, I would like to point out to the House that my colleagues and I are prepared to allow the motion for the concurrence in the report of the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs dealing with a number of subject matters from a number of private members' bills, mainly the subject of pornography under the Criminal Code, to go without debate. Our party does this because the recommendations of the committee were unanimous. It is an excellent report, and I commend it to the members of the House.

However, in the event that there is not a disposition to allow the motion to go forward without debate, perhaps then it could be the subject of consultation between the House leaders so that time could be arranged to have debate without taking up a full parliamentary day. I put this suggestion forward by way of a point of order, Mr. Speaker, so that with the limited time we have left in this parliament we will not have to take a full day debating the unanimous report. I commend the member for Windsor-Walkerville (Mr. MacGuigan), the chairman of the committee, on an excellent report. His motion takes precedence over mine, and I allowed that to happen because, after all, he is the chairman of the committee. But I do say that I would like to see concurrence in this motion, and I suggest that perhaps it could form the basis of discussion so that time could be taken—not a full parliamentary day—to deal with it.

Mr. Stuart Leggatt (New Westminster): With regard to the same point of order, Mr. Speaker, I rose in my place several days ago to indicate that there was not unanimous consent that this matter proceed without debate in the House. The hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath) is perfectly correct in pointing out that it is a unanimous report. However, it is the view of my party that this is a far too important a subject to go routinely through this House without debate. We would agree with the suggestion of my hon. friend of allocating some time. We are not interested in stalling the process of the House for very long, but we think a reasonable time should be set to debate this very important subject that has been raised by the Justice and Legal Affairs committee.

Mr. Speaker: I take it from the intervention by the hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath) that what he is telling the House is that, since no agreement is present to let the matter go without debate, he is asking that his motion be stood in the hope that consultation might take place on the subject.