

THE SENATE

Wednesday, November 29, 1995

The Senate met at 1:30 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers.

[Translation]

SENATOR'S STATEMENT

LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS

SCHEDULE OF WORK OF THE COMMITTEE— RESPONSE OF CHAIRMAN

Hon. Gérald-A. Beaudoin: Honourable senators, yesterday, in response to a question from Senator Jean-Robert Gauthier regarding the agenda of the Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs, I said that committee members were currently reviewing Bills C-45 and C-7. That is what has already been decided. We have a lot of work to do before the Christmas break. We have given priority to these two bills.

As for Bills C-22 and C-69, I wish to make a correction: These two bills are still in committee for the reasons stated yesterday, and a report is out of the question for now. As recently as last week, on Tuesday night, a majority of senators defeated a motion to report on Bill C-69 by November 23.

As for Bill C-22, the experts who came to testify have clearly established that the bill remains unconstitutional. In the absence of new amendment proposals from the government, the bill is still in committee.

[English]

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

CUSTOMS ACT CUSTOMS TARIFF

BILL TO AMEND—REPORT OF COMMITTEE

Hon. Michael Kirby, Chairman of the Standing Senate Committee on Banking, Trade and Commerce, presented the following report:

Wednesday, November 29, 1995

The Standing Senate Committee on Banking, Trade and Commerce has the honour to present its

TWENTY-FIFTH REPORT

Your Committee, to which was referred the Bill C-102, An Act to amend the Customs Act and the Customs Tariff and to make related and consequential amendments to other Acts, has, in obedience to the Order of Reference of Thursday, November 2, 1995, examined the said Bill and now reports the same without amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

MICHAEL KIRBY
Chairman

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the third time?

On motion of Senator Kirby, bill placed on the Orders of the Day for third reading at the next sitting of the Senate.

• (1340)

ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES READJUSTMENT BILL, 1995

NOTICE OF MOTION TO INSTRUCT LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE TO TABLE FINAL REPORT

Hon. Sharon Carstairs: Honourable senators, pursuant to rule 58(1)(f), I give notice that on Thursday next, November 30, 1995, I will move:

That it be an instruction of this House to the Standing Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs that no later than Monday, December 11, 1995 it present its final report to the Senate on the Message from the House of Commons, dated June 20, 1995 and on the motion of the Honourable Senator Graham dated June 28, 1995, regarding Bill C-69, An Act to provide for the establishment of electoral boundaries commissions and the readjustment of electoral boundaries, and

That in its report, the Committee recommend to the Senate that it not insist on its amendments to which the House of Commons has disagreed on June 20, 1995.

POINT OF ORDER

Hon. Orville H. Phillips: Honourable senators, I rise on a point of order. We voted on this subject last week. I believe that the rules forbid a vote on the same subject twice in a session.

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, I believe that there is a difference between this particular motion and the one of last week. I will attempt to ascertain that this is so, and I would ask that this matter be left until later this day so that I can compare it to the specific motion of last week. Is it agreed?