

request the concurrence of that House thereto.

Attest.

Alistair Fraser, Clerk Assistant
for The Clerk of the House of Commons

Honourable senators, when shall this message be taken into consideration?

Hon. John J. Connolly moved, with leave of the Senate:

That the Senate do agree that the Joint Committee of the Senate and House of Commons appointed to inquire into and report upon the problems of consumer credit be instructed also to inquire into and report upon the trends in the cost of living in Canada and factors which may have contributed to changes in the cost of living in Canada in recent months; and

That a message be sent to the House of Commons to inform that house accordingly.

He said: Honourable senators, I think it will be of assistance to remind the Senate that the Joint Committee of the Senate and House of Commons on Consumer Credit was approved originally in this house on November 21, 1963, but the session was prorogued before the committee was able to commence its work.

The committee was reconstituted on March 11, 1964, and during that session held eighteen meetings. On March 23, 1966, the committee was reconstituted again in this house, and I shall read from page 317 of the *Debates of the Senate* the motion which was made at that time.

That the Senate do unite with the House of Commons in the appointment of a Joint Committee of both Houses of Parliament to inquire into and report upon the problem of consumer credit, more particularly, but not so as to restrict the generality of the foregoing, to inquire into and report upon the operation of Canadian legislation in relation thereto;

That twelve members of the Senate to be designated by the Senate at a later date be members of the joint committee;

That the said committee have power to call for persons, papers and records and examine witnesses; to report from time to time and to print such papers and

evidence from day to day as may be deemed advisable, and to engage the services of counsel, accountants and such other clerical and technical personnel as may be deemed necessary, and to sit during sittings and adjournments of the Senate;

That the minutes of proceedings and evidence given before the joint committee during the Twenty-sixth Parliament be referred to the said committee and be made part of the records thereof; and

That a message be sent to the House of Commons to inform that house accordingly.

That motion was adopted unanimously.

On March 29, 1966 the Senate approved unanimously the following motion:

That the following senators be appointed to act on behalf of the Senate on the Joint Committee of the Senate and House of Commons to inquire into and report upon the problem of consumer credit, more particularly, but not so as to restrict the generality of the foregoing, to inquire into and report upon the operation of Canadian legislation in relation thereto, namely, the honourable Senators Croll, Davey, Deschatelets, Gershaw, Hastings, Hollett, Irvine, McGrand, Smith (Queens-Shelburne), Thorvaldson, Urquhart and Vaillancourt; and

That a message be sent to the House of Commons to inform that house accordingly.

On September 9 last in the House of Commons the following motion was moved:

That the Joint Committee of the Senate and House of Commons appointed by this House on March 15, 1966, to inquire into and report upon the problems of consumer credit, be instructed also to inquire into and report upon the trends in the cost of living in Canada and factors which may have contributed to changes in the cost of living in Canada in recent months;

And that a message be sent to the Senate to acquaint Their Honours thereof and to request the concurrence of that House thereto.

The purpose of this motion which we now have before us for consideration is simply to enlarge the terms of reference of that joint committee. The motion is that the Senate do