

to *Votes and Proceedings* or to *Hansard* so we could all have it.

Hon. Walter Baker (President of Privy Council and Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, I tabled that order in council on the second or third day of this Parliament. I have another one changing the acting capacity from one minister to another which I intend to table either today or tomorrow. I assure my friend that the other order in council was tabled here, I forget the day, but either on the second or third day.

Mr. Speaker: I think it is a worthy suggestion that either the previous order in council, or the proposed one, if it is comprehensive, should be—

Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton): They are the same, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: I was not certain whether the new order in council dealt with only one change or constituted a comprehensive list. In any case, I suggest that a comprehensive order in council covering all acting ministers ought to be printed at some time as an appendix to *Hansard*, perhaps today or as soon as possible.

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Cape Breton Highlands-Canso): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the President of Privy Council and Minister of National Revenue (Mr. Baker) would indicate whether the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce and Minister of State for Economic Development (Mr. de Cotret), who is in the other place, has an acting minister in the House of Commons?

Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I can deal with that in just a moment. The first acting minister for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce and Minister of State for Economic Development is the Hon. Michael H. Wilson, Minister of State for International Trade. In fact, there are two ministers in the House, and the second acting minister is the Minister of State for Small Business and Industry (Mr. Huntington).

● (1520)

Mr. MacEachen: I have one further point, Mr. Speaker. I have been puzzled again by the reply of the hon. minister. Did the minister take under consideration the unusual situation which was created by having Mr. Wilson, as he called him—and I do it respectfully—as the acting minister when he has not had assigned to him any statutory authority? I have been wondering how it is possible for the minister to operate not only as Minister of State for International Trade but also as an acting minister, when as far as I know no responsibility has been assigned to him by order in council except to describe him as an assistant to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Would the minister consider that and give us some clarification?

Private Members' Public Bills

Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, the minister has authority under an order in council, so I am advised. In any event there is an order in council, 1979-2783, an order of the Government of Canada, designating the hon. gentleman as the acting minister. The hon. gentleman is a member of Her Majesty's Privy Council for Canada, and I think that that ought to satisfy my good friend with respect to the minister's capacity. Moreover, I want the hon. member and you, sir, to know that the Government of Canada is exceedingly proud of the Minister of State for International Trade and the way in which he has conducted himself in this House.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*Translation*]

FINANCE, TRADE AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

FIRST REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

First report of Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs—Mr. Clarke (Vancouver Quadra).

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

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[*English*]

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

MEASURE RESPECTING ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT RECORDS

Hon. Walter Baker (President of Privy Council and Minister of National Revenue) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-15, to extend the present laws of Canada that provide access to information under the control of the Government of Canada and to amend the Canada Evidence Act, the Federal Court Act and the Statutory Instruments Act.

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

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

PROCEDURE RESPECTING INTRODUCTION OF PUBLIC BILLS ON ORDER PAPER

Mr. Speaker: May I refer hon. members to the practice which has been followed by the House invariably in the recent past with regard to the introduction and first reading of private members' public bills. On today's order paper there are listed some 285 bills standing in the names of various hon. members. It was, of course, not practical or possible for the Chair to review the provisions of each of these bills. Might I therefore suggest to the House that we adopt the procedure which was agreed upon in the past several sessions, namely,