

THE SENATE

Monday, May 12, 1952

The Senate met at 8 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

→ **CRIMINAL CODE BILL**
FIRST READING

Hon. Mr. Robertson presented Bill H-8, an Act respecting the Criminal Law.

The bill was read the first time.

NOTICE OF SECOND READING TOMORROW

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

Hon. Mr. Robertson: Honourable senators, a short time ago the leader of the opposition (Hon. Mr. Haig) quite properly called attention to the necessity of adhering to the rule requiring at least two days notice of a motion for the second reading of a bill. I quite agree that this rule should not be waived unless some excellent reason is advanced for so doing. For having myself occasionally lapsed into carelessness with respect to this rule I apologize to the house, and promise to try to observe the rule more faithfully in the future.

Under the circumstances, however, I feel justified in asking for the unanimous consent of the house to place this bill on the order paper for tomorrow. My earlier intention was to introduce this measure last Thursday and move second reading tonight, but because of the delay in receiving printed copies of this voluminous bill I later decided that when the bill was introduced tonight I would ask that it be set down for second reading on Wednesday, which would have been in accordance with the rules of the house. I am now informed that the Minister of Justice, who will explain the bill on second reading, is unable to be with us on Wednesday or Thursday, but can be here tomorrow. Therefore, unless the second reading is left over until Friday, or some time next week, the only alternative is to ask the leave of the house to proceed tomorrow.

Hon. John T. Haig: Honourable senators, as I raised a question the other day on the observance of the rules of the house, I feel that I should say a few words at this time.

I am most anxious to hear the minister's explanation of this bill, and then to have it considered in committee, where it can be dealt with clause by clause. I understand that a great many sections of the law have not been changed, that many have undergone

minor changes in the wording without—the revisors say—any alteration of meaning, and that many more sections have been completely redrafted, with changes in penalties and so on. This is a measure which, in my opinion, must be considered clause by clause.

The bill now before us is the result of the work of a committee under the distinguished chairmanship of the able Chief Justice of the province of Saskatchewan, who has worked on the amendments for some three or four years. One member of the committee is an able and experienced criminal lawyer from the Province of Manitoba, having been for ten years Crown Prosecutor in the city of Winnipeg, and later Deputy Attorney General.

I feel that the sooner the bill is explained on second reading, the earlier it will go to committee, and the more time we will have to consider it in detail. I am pleased, therefore, to consent to second reading tomorrow.

Hon. Mr. Reid: May I ask the honourable leader if copies of the bill will be distributed by tomorrow?

Hon. Mr. Robertson: I am quite sure that the printed copies will be available tomorrow.

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, is it the wish of the house that the honourable leader of the government be permitted to have this measure placed on the Order Paper for second reading tomorrow?

Some Hon. Senators: Agreed.

**TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS
COMMITTEE**

ADDITION TO PERSONNEL

Hon. A. L. Beaubien: Honourable senators, with leave of the Senate, I move that the name of Honourable Senator Roebuck be added to the list of senators serving on the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications.

The motion was agreed to.

**FARM IMPLEMENTS, INSECTICIDES
AND FERTILIZERS**

INQUIRY

Hon. Mr. McDonald inquired of the government:

1. What farm implements, insecticides or fertilizer materials are subject to import duty?

2. What is the rate of duty on the above-mentioned articles?

3. What other taxes are any of the above-mentioned articles subject to, and what are the rates of such other taxes?

Hon. Mr. Robertson: The answer is as follows:

1 and 2. No farm implement classified within the Agricultural Implement Schedule