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HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, November 19, 1991

The House met at 10 a.m.

Prayers

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

SCRUTINY OF REGULATIONS—THIRD REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. Derek Lee (Scarborough—Rouge River): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to table the third report of the Standing Committee on the Scrutiny of Regulations.

It is my duty to inform the House that this report contains a resolution pursuant to Standing Order 123 for the disallowance of sections 8, 13, 14 and 15 of the Indian health regulations, chapter 955 of the 1978 Consolidated Regulations of Canada. The text of the section subject to disallowance is included in Appendix A to this report.

Pursuant to Standing Order 35(1), I would like to give a succinct explanation of the procedure here. In the view of the committee the Indian health regulations contain provisions not authorized by the legislation passed by Parliament, as well as provisions that derogate from the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the Canadian Bill of Rights.

Furthermore, the joint committee believes these same provisions contravene its scrutiny criterion No. 9 as they trespass unduly on the rights and liberties and its scrutiny criterion No. 10 in that they make the rights and liberties of the person unduly dependent on administrative discretion and are not consistent with the rules of natural justice.

These provisions would authorize government officials to order the arrest, detention and forcible medical treatment of Canadian citizens without judicial authorization.

Other provisions provide officials with an unfettered right of entry into private residences and with the

authority to order the destruction of premises without prior notice.

Faced with the reluctance of responsible departments to revoke these regulations, the committee which I have the privilege to chair with Senator Norman Grimard and my colleague, the hon. member for Red Deer, has no choice but to resolve that these regulations be revoked.

JUSTICE AND SOLICITOR GENERAL—THIRD REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. Bob Horner (Mississauga West): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present, in both official languages, the third report of the Standing Committee on Justice and Solicitor General.

In accordance with its order of reference of Friday, October 4, 1991, your committee has considered Bill C-30, an act to amend the Criminal Code concerning mental disorder and to amend the National Defence Act and the Young Offenders Act in consequence thereof, and has agreed to report it with amendments.

[Editor's Note: See today's Votes and Proceedings.]

* * *

• (1010)

CRIMINAL CODE

MEASURE TO AMEND

Mr. John Reimer (Kitchener) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-324, an act to amend the Criminal Code (firearms).

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Pursuant to Standing Order 68(2), the motion is deemed adopted.

Mr. Reimer: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to send a powerful message of deterrence to anyone thinking of taking a gun along to commit a crime.

This bill would toughen section 85 of the Criminal Code, the section which makes it an offence to use a firearm while committing a crime. The minimum mandatory sentence would be increased from one to five years for a first offence and raised from three to eight years for any subsequent offences.