

*Committee Reports*

major industry, regardless of the statements made last week by the Conservative caucus and the textile industry?

[*English*]

**Hon. Sinclair Stevens (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion):** Mr. Speaker, once again the Member is admitting that he has made erroneous statements in the past. He has simply repeated what has oft been stated before as the government position with respect to the textile and clothing industry. We have the board recommendations. We agree in principle with those recommendations. We want a viable textile and clothing industry in this country.

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF GOVERNMENT MEASURES

**Mr. Mike Cassidy (Ottawa Centre):** I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Since the Minister was made an honorary life member of the *le Comité de survie du textile de Sherbrooke*, and since he indicated that the relevant Ministries are now in accord with what to do and have reached a consensus, can he tell us when the specific measures to ensure the maintenance of this industry which will stop the potential loss of 50,000 or 60,000 jobs in Ontario and Quebec will be announced?

**Hon. Sinclair Stevens (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion):** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased the Hon. Member has noted I am now a life member of that survival committee. It was an honour conferred on me obviously because of my role. It was not conferred on the Hon. Member.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Stevens:** I know Members are going to be very pleased with our policy on textiles and clothing, which will be announced quite soon.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Member for Cochrane-Superior. One question.

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## TRADE

## CANADA-UNITED STATES NEGOTIATIONS—CANADIAN LUMBER EXPORTS

**Mr. Keith Penner (Cochrane-Superior):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Right Hon. Prime Minister. Right across northern Ontario today there is a great deal of apprehension about renewed reports that the U.S. Congress and administration will get very tough on Canadian lumber imports. Having just returned from Washington, can the Prime Minister give the House, and the region from which I come, any assurances at all that this vital U.S. market for our lumber importers will be maintained and not diminished?

● (1200)

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, I did so in a number of ways and on a number of occasions.

Some American Senators and Congressmen have been taking the position that an essential precondition to any trade talks was the resolution of lumber issues in their favour. The answer was that there would be absolutely no preconditions of any kind.

Second, I told them in the Congress, in the Senate, and in the White House, that with particular regard to the forest industry Canada was a fair trader. We met all the objective criteria of the GATT and any bilateral requirements. I said that we are competitive and want to compete more. I said that we wanted a bigger share of their market and that I thought the quality of our products deserved it. I said that we would compete fairly and expect reciprocity in return.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*English*]

## VISIBLE MINORITIES

## TABLING OF PROGRESS REPORT ON GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—EQUALITY NOW

**Hon. Otto Jelinek (Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport) and Minister of State (Multiculturalism)):** Mr. Speaker, in accordance with Standing Order 67(2), and on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Racism and Racial Discrimination, I am honoured to table, in both official languages, a progress report on the response of the Government of Canada to the House of Commons Special Committee report on Visible Minorities entitled *Equality Now*.

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## COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

## BILL C-75—REPORT OF LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

**Mr. Derek Blackburn (Brant):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present the report of the legislative committee on Bill C-75, an Act to amend the Canada Shipping Act and to amend the Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act, the Maritime Code Act and the Oil and Gas Production and Conservation Act, with amendment.

## REGULATIONS AND OTHER STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS—FIFTH REPORT OF STANDING JOINT COMMITTEE

**Mr. Howard Crosby (Halifax West):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present the fifth report, Statutory Instrument No. 32, of the Standing Joint Committee on Regulations and Other Statutory Instruments on behalf of the joint chairmen of that committee.