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OF THE

HOUSE OF COMMONS

OF CANADA

OTTAWA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1975

2.00 o'clock p.m.

PRAYERS

Mr. O'Connell, from the Special Joint Committee on Immigration Policy, presented the Third Report of the Committee, which is as follows:

2. Pursuant to its Order of Reference of the House of Commons of Monday, March 3, 1975 and of the Senate of Wednesday, March 5, 1975, the Committee has heard evidence on and has considered Canadian immigration policy.

3. The Committee has interpreted its mandate as being to facilitate and give focus to a national debate on future immigration to Canada. Empowered by its terms of reference "to invite the views of the public" on the issues raised in the Green Paper on Immigration tabled by the Government in February, the Committee held public hearings in Ottawa and across Canada. Submissions of briefs and comments by individuals and organizations were received at the hearings and by mail.

4. In its 35 weeks of operation, the Committee held nearly 50 public hearings in 21 cities in each of Canada's five regions and in the Northwest Territories. More than 400 witnesses presented submissions at these meetings. In

addition, the Committee received more than 1,200 letters and briefs from individuals and more than 200 briefs from organizations that did not appear at the hearings. In all, more than 1,800 individuals and organizations submitted their views. A detailed analysis of the views and concerns of the witnesses and the authors of briefs and letters has been prepared and is attached as Appendix A. Among those contributing to the debate were the Minister and officials of the Department of Manpower and Immigration; organizations with a special interest in immigration; academic and non-academic experts including many groups and individuals qualified to speak with authority on immigration law; and many members of the public concerned about issues bearing on immigration policy. The Committee also benefited from meetings and consultations with representatives of some provincial governments.

5. As a supplement to the hearings, groups of members of the Committee paid inspection visits to immigration reception and processing centres in Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver, Fort Erie, Winnipeg, and London, England. Some members visited Washington, D.C., to consult with American officials and to examine United States policy at first hand.