Tabling of Documents

Hon. Members will be aware that that makes it somewhat difficult for the Chair. While the contradictions may be very serious indeed, the question the Chair has to decide is whether the contradictions are such that they make it more difficult for Members of Parliament to carry out their duties; in other words, that their privilege has been breached.

I shall return to the Chamber as quickly as possible to render a decision on this particular matter.

I know that the Hon. Member for York South—Weston (Mr. Nunziata) had indicated his intention to move a question of privilege. No doubt the Hon. Member has been called away on important business. I do have notice of his intention to raise a matter, and perhaps it could be dealt with at another time.

ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES READJUSTMENT ACT

TABLING OF SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT OF THE COMMISSION REPORT FOR 1987—BRITISH COLUMBIA

Mr. Speaker: It is my duty, pursuant to the provisions of the Representation Act, 1985, to lay upon the table a certified copy of the supplementary report of the Electoral Boundaries Commission for the 1987 report for the Province of British Columbia.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REINSTATEMENT

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Mazankowski:

That this House supports, in principle, the reinstatement of capital punishment and directs that a special committee on reinstatement, composed of 15 members, be established, hold hearings and make its final report to the House no later than three (3) months following the adoption of this motion, such report to provide recommendations on:

- (a) which offence or offences should carry the death penalty, and in what
- (b) which method or methods should be used to carry out the penalty of death, and in what circumstances;

That, pursuant to Standing Order 107(1), this special committee be hereby appointed as a committee to prepare and bring in a bill no later than three months following the adoption of this motion, founded on the committee's recommendations on (a) and (b) above; such a bill shall be the object of a separate and distinct report of the special committee, and such a report shall be its final report;

That such bill, when reported from such special committee to the House, be deemed pursuant to Standing Order 107(1) to have been introduced and stand on the Order Paper, in the name of the special committee chairman, for first

reading at the next sitting of the House; and that subsequent House stages of the bill be considered under "Government Orders", with the bill standing under the heading "Government Business"; and that, when the said bill has been read a second time, it shall stand referred to a Legislative Committee:

That the Striking Committee be empowered to name the Members of the special committee, provided that once the Striking Committee report is laid upon the Table, it shall be deemed concurred in:

That the special committee have the power to sit while the House is sitting and during periods when the House stands adjourned;

That the special committee be empowered to report from time to time and send for persons and papers, and to print such papers and evidence from time to time as may be ordered by the committee and to retain the services of expert, technical, professional and clerical staff;

That the special committee be empowered to adjourn from place to place inside Canada and that, when deemed necessary, the appropriate staff accompany the committee;

That a quorum of the special committee be eight (8) members for any vote, resolution or other decision; and that the chairman be authorized to hold meetings to receive evidence and authorize the printing thereof whenever six (6) members are present;

That any substitution of membership on the special committee be made pursuant to Standing Order 94(4); and

That, notwithstanding the usual practices of this House, if the House is not sitting when the special committee is ready to issue its final report and the said bill, the special committee shall present its report and the bill to the House by filing them with the Clerk of the House provided that the report shall then be deemed to have been laid upon the Table, and the bill shall then be deemed, pursuant to Standing Order 107(1), to have been introduced at the first sitting of the House thereafter and to stand on the Order Paper in the name of the special committee chairman, for first reading at the next sitting of the House; and that subsequent House stages of the bill be considered under "Government Orders", with the bill standing under the heading "Government Business".

And on the amendment of Mr. Nystrom (p. 7307).

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): When the House recessed, the Hon. Member for Portneuf (Mr. Ferland) had one minute remaining in the allocated time for his speech, to be followed by 10 minutes for questions or comments.

The Hon. Member for Portneuf.

• (1530)

[Translation]

Mr. Ferland: If I may, Mr. Speaker, after you interrupted me this morning, pursuant to our rules of course—people who are following the debate certainly must have difficulty understanding how a speech can be stopped right in the middle, and then you wait for two and a half hours before resuming it. So I just received the blues, and for a better understanding of the speech I would like if I may to complete a sentence, the last one, and it reads: Justice must be served and the accused must be kept awake, he must be kept alive. That is justice for society. I should say: that is retribution for society. Because as far as I am concerned, Mr. Speaker, re-instating capital punishment in this country is merely vengeance, it is abdicating before a reality, abdicating before the basic problem.

I mentioned earlier in my speech the efforts Parliament should make, the real efforts each Member in this House should make to reform our criminal system, our youth