

resolutions of the Senate and House of Commons and of the legislative assembly of each province:

- (a) the office of the Queen, the Governor General and the Lieutenant Governor of a province;
- (b) the right of a province of a number of members in the House of Commons not less than the number of Senators by which the province was entitled to be represented on April 17, 1982;
- (c) the principle of proportionate representation of the provinces in the House of Commons prescribed by the Constitution of Canada;
- (d) subject to section 43, the use of the English or the French language;
- (e) the Supreme Court of Canada; and
- (f) an amendment to this Part.

42.(1) An amendment to the Constitution of Canada in relation to the following matters may be made only in accordance with subsection 38(1):

- (a) the powers of the Senate and the method of selecting Senators; and
- (b) the number of members by which a province or territory is entitled to be represented in the Senate and the residence qualifications of Senators.

(2) Subsections 38(2) to (4) do not apply in respect of amendments in relation to matters referred to in subsection (1).

42A. Notwithstanding subsection 42(1) of the *Constitution Act, 1982*, the establishment of new provinces and the extension of existing provinces into territories shall be a matter exclusively for the Governor General in Council and the elected government of the territory affected."

(h) in paragraph 13 of the Schedule by deleting subsection 50.(2) and substituting the following therefor:

"(2) The conferences convened under subsection (1) shall have included on their agenda the following matters:

- (a) the aboriginal and treaty rights of the aboriginal peoples of Canada, including self-government;
- (b) Senate reform, including the role and functions of the Senate, its powers, the method of selecting Senators, representation in the Senate.
- (c) roles and responsibilities in relation to fisheries at the first meeting only;
- (d) such other matters as are agreed upon."

(i) by deleting paragraph 16 of the Schedule and substituting the following therefor:

"16. Nothing in the *Constitution Amendment, 1987* derogates from any of the rights and freedoms guaranteed by the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms or affects Part II of the *Constitution Act, 1982*".—The Leader of the Opposition.

and on the amendment of Mr. Broadbent:

October 1, 1987—That the motion be amended

- (a) by adding in paragraph 2 subsection 25(1) the words "and the elected government of each territory" immediately after the word "province";
- (b) by adding in paragraph 2 subsection 25(2) the words "or the elected government of a territory" immediately after the word "province";
- (c) by adding in paragraph 6 subsection 101C.(1) the words "or the elected government of a territory" immediately after the word "province";
- (d) by adding in paragraph 6 subsection 101C.(4) the words "or the elected government of a territory" immediately after the word "province";
- (e) by deleting in paragraph 9, section 41 paragraph (i);
- (f) by adding to paragraph 13 subsection 50(2) the following new paragraph:

"(c) aboriginal rights, in particular self-government;"

(g) by adding to paragraph 13 section 50 the following new subsection:

"(3) The Prime Minister shall invite to the Conferences designated in section 50 subsection (2)(c) representatives of the aboriginal peoples of Canada and the governments of the Northwest Territories and Yukon Territory and those groups and governments shall participate fully in all matters that affect aboriginal rights."

(h) by deleting paragraph 16 and substituting the following therefor:

"16. Nothing in section 2 of the *Constitution Act, 1867* affects section 25, 27 or 28 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982* or class 24 of section 91 of the *Constitution*.—Mr. Broadbent.

and on the amendment of Mr. Caccia:

That the motion be amended in paragraph 1 of the Schedule

- (a) by deleting Section 2.(1) and substituting the following therefor:

### *Constitution Amendment, 1987*

"2.(1) The Constitution of Canada shall be interpreted in a manner consistent with the recognition that Canada constitutes aboriginal and multicultural societies, with English and French as the official languages of Canada, French-speaking Canadians being centred in Quebec but also present elsewhere in Canada and English-speaking Canadians concentrated outside Quebec but also present in Quebec".

- (b) by deleting Section 2.(3).

and on the amendment of Mr. Allmand:

That the motion be amended in paragraph 1 of the Schedule by adding immediately after subsection 2.(4) the following:

"(5) Nothing in this section derogates from any of the rights and freedoms guaranteed by the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms."

**Mr. Gauthier:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

The projected order of business today indicates that Bill C-55 was to be called at this time. I can understand the Government wishing to change the agenda. However, I wish to once again state that it is difficult for the Official Opposition to organize its work around the committees that are sitting at this time, and the House sitting at eleven o'clock, if we do not have sufficient notice of what is to be called at a specific time. While I understand the strategy of the Government in attempting to debate the Meech Lake Accord in the House and dispose of it, I hardly think it is fair to the Official Opposition to have its speakers on Bill C-55 called into the House, wait here to speak, and then told at the last minute that there has been a change and we are now debating Meech Lake.

The problem is one of logistics and mechanics. I am not complaining about the fact that the Government may wish to call the Meech Lake Accord today, or anything else. All I am saying is that it is very difficult, with a restricted number of Members of Parliament in Official Opposition, to maintain positions in committees, as we are at this time, and to have the same people pulled out of committee to come into the House and speak on specific items for which they have responsibility.

On the Meech Lake Accord, our Member, the Hon. Member for Cape Breton—East Richmond (Mr. Dingwall) was the last Member to speak. I take it that the Government has a speaker to follow up, as does the NDP. This is the type of situation where if the Government would not put up a speaker, the Official Opposition would be caught in the position of having to continue debate—

**Mr. Lewis:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Gauthier:** Well, it has been done before. I would request that the Government House Leader give us fair advance notice in order that we can plan our work accordingly.

Indeed, it is the privilege of all Members of Parliament to know exactly what the business of the House will be and to deal with that accordingly.

**Mr. Riis:** Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the comments of my hon. colleague. I simply wish to say that I realize that these are turbulent times. I presume the Government is under a lot