HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday April 17, 1970

The House met at 11 a.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

POLLUTION

NAMING OF MEMBERS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the striking committee has now agreed on the membership of the Special Committee on Environmental Pollution, and if the House would be agreeable perhaps this could be made an order of the House:

That the members of the Special Committee on Environmental Pollution be Messrs. Aiken, Anderson, Comeau, Deakon, Gauthier, Given, Haidasz, Harding, Knowles (Norfolk-Haldimand), Lachance, Rock and Sulatycky.

Mr. Speaker: Is this agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

LABOUR CONDITIONS

UNEMPLOYMENT INCREASE—REQUEST TO TABLE CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. John Lundrigan (Gander-Twillingate): Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask permission of the House to try to make a move which will convince the right hon. Prime Minister of the seriousness of my observations yesterday. With your permission, sir, and with the permission of the House, if I may have it, I would like to table the recent correspondence I have received from my province on unemployment. Perhaps this might have an overflow effect on the Prime Minister—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I respectfully suggest to the hon. member that the procedures of the House, the Standing Orders and our practices do not make it possible for members to table correspondence and private papers. In this sense I would not think that we should depart from a rather lengthy practice. I suggest to the hon. member that if he wants to communicate this information to the Chair, to a member of the government or to other members of the House, he can do so in some other way than by tabling these documents.

Mr. Lundrigan: Mr. Speaker, I was going to ask for unanimous consent but I will take your advice and I will walk across later and present it to the Prime Minister.

Mr. Trudeau: Why don't you answer your letters?

Mr. Baldwin: This is not the Prime Minister's day to read letters.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT

CONTINUATION OF BENEFITS TO UNEMPLOYED WHILE RETRAINING

Mr. Max Salisman (Waterloo) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-205, to amend the Unemployment Insurance Act.

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Saltsman: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to encourage those who are unemployed and in receipt of unemployment insurance to undertake retraining and upgrading for the period of their unemployment and to continue receiving unemployment insurance benefits during that time.

• (11:10 a.m.)

The bill also seeks to change the present interpretation of the Act which disqualifies people from unemployment insurance benefits when temporarily attending school during lay-offs or waiting for a job opening.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

LABOUR CONDITIONS

ACCEPTABLE LEVEL OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN COMBATING INFLATION

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, in view of the alarming increase in unemployment shown by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' figures released yesterday, could the Prime Minister give the House an indication of the extent of unemployment that the government would permit before slowing down on its policies of creating more slack in the economy? In other