HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, March 1, 1988

The House met at 11 a.m.

Prayers

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

LIBRARY OF PARLIAMENT

PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL REPORT

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to lay upon the table the report of the Parliamentary Librarian for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1987.

JAMES BAY AND NORTHERN QUEBEC NATIVE CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT

TABLING OF ANNUAL REPORT, 1987

Hon. Bill McKnight (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to table, in both official languages, the 1987 annual report on the implementation of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement and of the Northeastern Quebec Agreement, pursuant to Section 10 of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Native Claims Settlement Act, and it would be permanently referred to the appropriate committee.

[Translation]

PETITIONS

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

Mr. Jim Hawkes (Parliamentary Secretary to Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 106(8), I have the honour of tabling, in both official languages, the Government's response to petitions Nos. 332-3879 to 332-3688, inclusive; 332-3810, 332-3811, 332-3873 to 332-3879, inclusive; and 332-3928 to 332-3933, inclusive.

STRIKING

PRESENTATION OF FIFTY-SECOND REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. Gabriel Fontaine (Lévis): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour of tabling, in both official languages, the fifty-second Report of the Striking Committee.

[Editor's Note: For above report see today's Votes and Proceedings].

[English]

PETITIONS

PROPOSED FREE TRADE

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops—Shuswap): Mr. Speaker, indeed it is a privilege and an honour to present, pursuant to Standing Order 106, a petition from a number of western Canadians who are very concerned that the federal Government does not have a mandate from the people of Canada to conclude a trade deal with the United States, which they believe, of course, would challenge Canadian sovereignty.

They believe that the trade deal negotiated by the Government threatens the very fabric of Canadian political and economic sovereignty since it removes the power of the Canadian Government to control foreign ownership effectively. As well, it effectively removes Canada's ability to develop its energy resources in the best interest of Canadians.

Therefore, they ask the Parliament to dissolve to allow the people of Canada an opportunity either to accept or reject the proposed trade deal during a national general election.

Mr. Ernie Epp (Thunder Bay—Nipigon): Mr. Speaker, it is an honour to present petitions on behalf of residents of the Ottawa area—the City of Ottawa, Kanata, and other parts of the capital area. They protest, with regard to the trade deal negotiated with the United States, that the agreement would deny Canada the policy freedom to determine its own economic future and undermine our ability to build a society distinct from that of the U.S.

This is in a context in which the agreement fails to achieve the secure access that the Government said was the key objective and ends up threatening the loss of hundreds of thousands of Canadian jobs.