

Senator Simard: I am sure we will have to check the fine print.

Senator Guay: Your whip is not with you at all.

Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, on the matter of Senator Simard's question of privilege, Senator Phillips has suggested that the matter be delayed until the return of Senator Frith, and I assume that meets with the approval of the chamber.

The Hon. the Speaker: Is it agreed, honourable senators?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

POVERTY IN CANADA

SENATE REPORT ON POVERTY—POVERTY LINE UPDATE, 1988
TABLED AND PRINTED AS APPENDIX

Hon. David A. Croll: Honourable senators, with leave, I wish to table a document entitled "Poverty Line Update—1988", which is the eighteenth annual poverty line issued by the Senate of Canada.

I ask that this document be printed as an appendix to the *Minutes of the Proceedings of the Senate* and to the *Debates of the Senate* of this day and that it form part of the permanent records of this house.

The Hon. the Speaker: Is leave granted, honourable senators?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

(For text of document, see appendix, p. 1022)

[Translation]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

PRESENTATION OF PETITION ON BILL C-21

Hon. Jacques Hébert: Honourable senators, I have the honour to present a petition signed by 5,000 Quebecers.

[English]

These 5,000 citizens protest vigorously against Bill C-21.

[Translation]

The South-West Montreal Unemployment Committee had no trouble at all gathering the signatures.

● (1420)

[English]

INTERNAL ECONOMY, BUDGETS AND ADMINISTRATION

THIRTY-SECOND REPORT OF COMMITTEE PRESENTED

Hon. Roméo LeBlanc, chairman of the Standing Committee on Internal Economy, Budgets and Administration, presented the following report:

Tuesday, January 23, 1990

The Standing Committee on Internal Economy, Budgets and Administration has the honour to present its

THIRTY-SECOND REPORT

Your Committee recommends the approval of health insurance coverage at Senate expense for Senators and spouses to be automatically obtained by Committee Clerks from a third carrier (i.e., Voyageur, Ontario Blue Cross) for medical expenses while travelling on official business outside Canada. While Senators are travelling on Senate business other than Committee business, Senators can claim such coverage as a legitimate expense.

Respectfully submitted,

ROMÉO LEBLANC
Chairman

The Hon. the Speaker pro tempore: Honourable senators, when shall this report be taken into consideration?

On motion of Senator LeBlanc, report placed on the Orders of the Day for consideration at the next sitting of the Senate.

PANAMA

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO U.S. INVASION—
NOTICE OF INQUIRY

Hon. Peter A. Stollery: Honourable senators, I give notice of an inquiry under rule 44. Specifically, my inquiry refers to the Canadian government's response to the U.S. invasion of Panama during December 1989.

[Translation]

THE CONSTITUTION

MEECH LAKE ACCORD—REACTION OF QUEBEC—NOTICE OF
INQUIRY

Hon. S. Chaput-Rolland: Honourable senators, I give notice that on Tuesday next, the 30th January, 1990, I will call the attention of the Senate to the Province of Quebec and its reaction to Canada according to the Meech Lake Accord.

QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

THE SENATE

ABSENCE OF GOVERNMENT LEADER FROM CHAMBER

Hon. C. William Doody (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, Senator Murray will not be here this afternoon. He has been detained. I would be pleased to take as notice any questions honourable senators might have.