

# HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, April 18, 1973

The House met at 2 p.m.

## THE ROYAL ASSENT

**Mr. Speaker:** I have the honour to inform the House that a communication has been received which is as follows:

Government House,  
18 April, 1973

I have the honour to inform you that His Excellency the Governor General will proceed to the Senate chamber today, the 18th day of April, at 5.45 p.m. for the purpose of giving Royal Assent to certain bills.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
André Garneau  
Brigadier General  
Administrative Secretary to the Governor General

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## HOUSE OF COMMONS

### TABLING OF EXTRACT FROM MINUTES OF MEETING OF COMMISSIONERS OF INTERNAL ECONOMY CONCERNING MEMBERS' TELEPHONE EXPENSES

**Mr. Speaker:** I have the honour to lay upon the table an extract from the minutes of a meeting of the Commissioners of Internal Economy, held on Tuesday, April 17, 1973, concerning telephone expenses of members of the House.

### TABLING OF EXTRACT FROM MINUTES OF MEETING OF COMMISSIONERS OF INTERNAL ECONOMY CONCERNING EMPLOYEES' SALARIES

**Mr. Speaker:** I also have the honour to lay upon the table an extract from the minutes of a meeting of the Commissioners of Internal Economy concerning revisions of the salaries of employees of the House of Commons.

**Mr. MacEachen:** Mr. Speaker, if I may rise on a point of order, I should like to advise the House that I will be seeking consent later this day to move concurrence in the report of the commissioners.

## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

### REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

First Report of Standing Committee on Regional Development—Mr. Penner.

[*Editor's note: For text of above report, see today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

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[*Translation*]

### SOCIAL SECURITY

#### STATEMENT BY MINISTER RESPECTING RE-EXAMINATION OF PROGRAMS—TABLING OF WORKING PAPER

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, it has become increasingly apparent that the Canadian people are questioning the effectiveness of the nation's social security programs. It was this same concern that brought the government of Canada and the governments of the provinces independently to the same conclusion that a joint federal-provincial review was called for—a review which would embrace not only what each individual government is doing in the field of social security but also what the governments together are doing.

In November 1972, the provincial ministers of welfare called for a federal-provincial conference before the spring of 1973 to establish better mechanisms for consultation on social security programs. And in January 1973, in the Speech from the Throne, the government of Canada called for a joint federal-provincial review of "Canada's total social security system", beginning in April 1973.

The government of Canada has prepared a working paper as its contribution to the launching of such a review. It is not designed to present a panacea for every weakness in Canada's welfare system. Nor is it meant as a set of fixed proposals put forward by the government of Canada to parliament and the provinces, for early legislative implementation. Rather it is designed to outline the broad directions of policy which would, in the view of the government, lead to a more effective and better co-ordinated system of social security for Canadians.

We have sought, in developing our proposals, to comprehend the whole sweep of social security policy and to develop a comprehensive, logical, and hopefully imaginative approach to this field. We have sought, too, to exercise our ingenuity in finding new, and if necessary radical, federal-provincial or constitutional arrangements, in order