

# HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, March 19, 1987

The House met at 11 a.m.

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*Prayers*

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## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*English*]

### ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES READJUSTMENT ACT

TABLING OF REPORT OF COMMISSION FOR PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

**Mr. Speaker:** It is my duty, pursuant to Section 9 of the Representation Act, 1985, Chapter 8, Statutes of Canada, 1986, to lay upon the table a certified copy of the 1987 report of the Electoral Boundaries Commission for the Province of Prince Edward Island.

[*Translation*]

Pursuant to the Act, this report is deemed to have been referred to the Standing Committee on Elections, Privileges and Procedure.

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[*English*]

### INTERPARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS

PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF DELEGATION OF THE CANADIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION TO BARBADOS AND GRENADA

**Hon. Lloyd R. Crouse (South Shore):** Mr. Speaker, I rise pursuant to Standing Order 101 to present to the House a report on the meeting of the delegation of the Canadian Branch of the Canadian Parliamentary Association to Barbados and Grenada in February, 1987, in both official languages.

[*Editor's Note: See today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

[*Translation*]

### COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

TELEGLOBE CANADA REORGANIZATION AND DIVESTITURE ACT—REPORT OF LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

**Mrs. Lise Bourgault (Argenteuil—Papineau):** Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the Committee, I have the honour to present the report of the Legislative Committee on Bill C-38, an Act respecting the reorganization and divestiture of Teleglobe Canada, with amendments, in both official languages.

[*English*]

LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND IMMIGRATION—FIRST REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

**Mr. Jim Hawkes (Calgary West):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present the first report of the Standing Committee on Labour, Employment and Immigration concerning unemployment insurance in both official languages. In accordance with Standing Order 99(2), I request that the Government make a comprehensive response to this first report.

First, I want to pay tribute to committee members who have laboured long and hard. In the last two weeks I recall four occasions when the committee meetings began early in the morning and concluded at midnight or shortly thereafter. I think that that type of schedule speaks to the complexity of unemployment insurance. It also speaks to the importance of unemployment insurance in the Canadian mosaic. Our report contains 90 recommendations from all three Parties. There was agreement on 89 of those recommendations and slight differences on only one. I think that speaks for the spirit of co-operation which members have shown in this endeavour.

The major feature of the changes recommended by the committee are to restore equity from coast to coast, in a geographic sense. We hope the days are over when there were first-class unemployed in some regions of the country and second-class unemployed in other regions.

We are also recommending that the beneficiaries of unemployment insurance will increasingly be allowed to take better control of their own lives by becoming trained and retrained while receiving benefits. I believe it is the first time that a committee of the House has recommended that as a matter of right, adult Canadians who do not have a basic education be allowed to use their benefit periods to seek that basic education. We think it is a major attack on the problem of functional illiteracy in this country. If our advice is to be