

program. It is obvious, since a program of this magnitude requires months of preparation and planning, that the minister of fitness and amateur sport on those dates either misled this House or did not know what was happening in his department. If he was unaware of these activities in his department, then he should do the only honourable thing open to him, and that is to resign from his responsibility as a member of the cabinet within that portfolio.

If, on the other hand, he was intentionally misleading the House, then I humbly ask Your Honour to judge whether I do indeed have a prima facie case of privilege arising out of the minister's obvious attempts to mislead this House. Should your judgment be a positive one, it would be my intention to move that this whole matter be brought to the attention of the appropriate standing committee.

Madam Speaker: I think I can rule immediately on this matter. I think the hon. member will agree with me that it is obviously a matter for debate as to whether the minister was aware or could make the kind of statement he made in the House in answer to a question of the hon. member. A minister may change his mind. He may not be ready to make an announcement, and it is up to the minister to express the matter in the way he feels he might express it. He stands or falls on the way he deals with these questions in the House. Therefore that is a matter for debate. I am afraid it is not a question of privilege, and I do not find a prima facie case.

Mr. Paproski: Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of order on that same question of privilege, if I may—

Madam Speaker: Order, please. No, the hon. member cannot come back on the ruling. I have already ruled, and I can hear no more on this particular question. The hon. member knows the rules. I am just applying the rules hon. members have made for themselves.

Mr. Paproski: On a point of order, Madam Speaker, I would like to talk about something related to the preceding question of privilege. It is just related.

Many people in Canada say that this minister of fitness and amateur sport lied when he went ahead with this.

Madam Speaker: Order. The hon. member is debating and referring directly to a question on which I have already ruled. I am afraid I cannot hear him.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE '80s

Fifth report of Special Committee on Employment Opportunities for the '80s—Mr. Allmand.

Petitions

[Editor's Note: For text of above Report see today's Votes and Proceedings.]

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[Translation]

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL FISCAL ARRANGEMENTS

PRESENTATION OF SECOND REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE

Mr. Herb Breau (Gloucester): Madam Speaker, I have the honour to present the second report of the special committee set up to act as a parliamentary task force on federal-provincial fiscal arrangements.

[Editor's Note: For text of above reports, see today's Votes and Proceedings.]

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[English]

HOUSE OF COMMONS

TABLING OF ORDERS IN COUNCIL RESPECTING ROSTER OF CABINET MINISTERS AND APPOINTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIES

Hon. Yvon Pinard (President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, in accordance with Standing Order 41(2), I am tabling a copy of an order in council establishing a roster of acting ministers and a copy of the membership of the cabinet committees. For the convenience of hon. members I suggest that these be printed as an appendix to today's *Hansard*. I am also tabling a copy of the order in council appointing parliamentary secretaries.

● (1530)

Madam Speaker: Is it agreed that these documents should be appended and printed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Madam Speaker: It is so ordered.

[Editor's Note: For text of orders in council above referred to, see Appendix "A".]

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PETITIONS

MR. ROCHE—CANCELLATION OF VIA RAIL SERVICES THROUGH EDMONTON

Mr. Douglas Roche (Edmonton South): Madam Speaker, I ask leave to present a petition protesting the government's decision to cancel transcontinental VIA Rail services through Edmonton. This petition, signed by 30,000 people in Edmonton, was assembled by the Kinsmen Club of Edmonton and handed to the PC VIA Rail task force in September. It is the largest petition ever sent to Ottawa from Alberta's capital. The petition requests that the government rescind its decision,