HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, October 18, 1990

The House met at 11 a.m.

Prayers

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[Translation]

INTERPARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS

PRESENTATION OF REPORT ON TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL MEETING OF CANADA-FRANCE INTERPARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION

Mr. Jean-Guy Guilbault (Drummond): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 34, I have the honour to present, in both official languages, the report on the twenty-third annual meeting of the Canada-France Interparliamentary Association.

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

PETITIONS

OPPOSITION TO GST

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa-Vanier): Mr. Speaker, this morning it is my duty to present a petition signed by 30 Canadians who are vigorously opposed to the new tax on goods and services which the Conservative government proposes to introduce on January 1, 1991. These Canadians say that the Conservative government has inflicted 31 tax increases on taxpayers since they came to power in 1984, that introducing this tax would be unfair, since it is a hidden and regressive tax, and that it would increase inflation and make things very difficult for Canadians. Your petitioners strenuously object to this new tax which, in their opinion, constitutes an unprecedented assault on the incomes of Canadian men and women, which will not only force them to pay higher taxes but also increase inflation, interest rates and unemployment.

Therefore, your petitioners humbly call upon Parliament to reject the proposed goods and services tax.

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry-Prescott-Russell): Mr. Speaker, I also have the honour to present a petition signed by a number of Canadians, most of whom live in the community of Sarsfield in Glengarry-Prescott-Russell, a lovely village where I have the privilege of residing.

The residents of Sarsfield in the riding of Glengarry— Prescott—Russell strenuously object to the Tory government's plan to introduce the GST, and they humbly call upon Parliament to reject the proposed unfair tax on goods and services.

[English]

Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West): Mr. Speaker, I too would like to deposit, for the House of Commons and the government, a petition signed by a significant number of Canadians respecting their disapproval of the imposition of the GST.

They petition this government to come to its senses quickly and to recognize that close to 90 per cent of Canadians across this country, young and old, north, south, east and west, are definitely against this kind of GST tax.

They humbly pray that the government listen to those concerns and to those voices right across the land.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Mr. Fred J. Mifflin (Bonavista – Trinity – Conception): Mr. Speaker, I rise under Standing Order 36 to present a petition on behalf of 100 of my constituents from the Dover area, essentially Elliston, as well as from Catalina, Port Union, Little Catalina, Melrose, and the Bonavista area.

These constituents are very concerned that the unemployment rate in Newfoundland is the highest in the country. They are devastated that they require not the usual 10 weeks that they have been used to over the past 14 or 15 years but require in fact an additional four weeks