

*Routine Proceedings*

Mr. Speaker, I have tabled nearly a dozen petitions on behalf of constituents of Ottawa—Vanier asking Canada Post to reverse this unfortunate decision and I hope they will listen to good old common sense.

[English]

## BALTIC STATES

**Mr. Neil Young (Beaches—Woodbine):** Mr. Speaker, I have three petitions to present today. The first requests that as the House of Commons has condemned the brutal and unacceptable Soviet crackdown on Lithuania and Latvia, Canada has suspended aid to the U.S.S.R. in light of Soviet military aggression in the Baltic States and the Canadian government does not recognize the *de jure* annexation of the Baltic States by the Soviet Union, and the Canadian government supports the peaceful restoration of freedoms in the Baltic States, and as the present Government of Latvia was elected on a pro-independence platform and enjoys the confidence of the people, the petitioners call upon Parliament to allocate and activate credits for feed grain to Latvia and the neighbouring Baltic States.

The next petition, Mr. Speaker, is similar in the preamble. However, in the whereases, the petitioners call upon Parliament to ascertain the specific requirements for medical aid to Latvia, allocate funds for the acquisition of required medical supplies for Latvia, and expedite the shipment of these supplies to the Government of Latvia.

## CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

**Hon. William Rompkey (Labrador):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition on behalf of several thousand residents of Labrador from a number of communities; Happy Valley, Goose Bay, Labrador City, Wabush, Nain, Makkovik, and other communities along the coast. The petitioners are calling on the Parliament of Canada to instruct the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation to reverse its decision regarding the cancellation of Labrador services. They point out that the federal government, through the CBC, has seen fit to cancel all locally produced and locally broadcasted television material in the region of Labrador, and as Labrador is the only location in Canada's north to experience such a cut, and as there is no alternate source

of local television broadcasts available in Labrador, neither a daily newspaper, nor a full-time local radio station, that these local CBC television services are essential and should be reinstated immediately.

## GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

**Mrs. Sheila Finestone (Mount Royal):** Mr. Speaker, I rise, following the tabling of the Ways and Means Motion by the President of the Treasury Board, where we removed the tax on yoghurt but we certainly did not stop taxing books, which is to impose ignorance. Taxing books is a terrible mortgage on our future, and I think we should do everything that we can to encourage reading—

[Translation]

Now that we have come to realize the extent of the problem of illiteracy in our country, now is the time to encourage reading, not to tax it.

[English]

It was with great regret that I will read once again into the record that petitioners, thousands now, call on this Parliament to remove the repressive tax on reading, which is a tax on intellectual property.

Mr. Speaker, please note that Canadians are not happy with the the Ways and Means Motion deposited today.

## CANADA POST

**Ms. Catherine Callbeck (Malpeque):** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to present a petition signed by many of my constituents from Malpeque, Prince Edward Island. They are concerned about the post office in Albany and state that the Canada Post Corporation, which is presently reviewing the status of the Albany post office for conversion, its residents should not be deprived of adequate postal service due to the rural nature of Prince Edward Island.

These petitioners call upon Parliament to reject proposals which will decrease postal service to their local community, to take strong and immediate action to assure them that our post office, which serves a great need in their community will not be closed, put out on contract, relocated in another community, replaced with supermailboxes or any other inferior service.