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oil, uranium, and potash. Despite these set-backs in the resource industry, the latest trade indicators show that Saskatchewan is faring well with a Progressive Conservative provincial Government.

By working in partnership with the federal Government, total Saskatchewan exports in 1985 increased 11.6 per cent from 1984. Manufacturing exports grew by over 14 per cent. Already in the first two months of 1986 over-all Saskatchewan exports have increased by an impressive 48 per cent from the same period last year.

This should interest the New Democratic Party particularly. As we know, the NDP is against more trade for Saskatchewan. The NDP favours conflict and harassment in federal provincial relations. This is in stark contrast to the Government of Grant Devine which sees the value of trade and the success of harmonious federal—provincial co-operation.

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## TRADE

## SUPPORT FOR CANADA-UNITED STATES NEGOTIATIONS

**Mr. Bill Attewell (Don Valley East):** Mr. Speaker, over the past year members of the opposition Parties have tried to mislead Canadians with regard to the upcoming trade negotiations with the United States. Their strategy of spreading doom and gloom scenarios has been quite irresponsible.

Let us look at some facts. Eighty per cent of our exports go to the United States, and approximately 2.5 million jobs are dependent upon trade. If we want to maintain and build upon our past successes, surely we should not bury our heads in the sand like an ostrich. Surely we should welcome the opportunity to sit down with our largest trading partner to discuss our trade issues and theirs. However, it is vitally important that we do our homework and be well organized for these discussions.

I believe we have a superb structure in place, under the leadership of Simon Reisman, with which to enhance our trade opportunities with the United States.

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[Translation]

## CANADA POST CORPORATION

PROTESTS BY SAINT-LÉONARD—ANJOU CONSTITUENCY  
TAXPAYERS

**Mr. Alfonso Gagliano (Saint-Léonard—Anjou):** Mr. Speaker, residents of new housing projects in the Municipality of Saint-Léonard and Ville d'Anjou in my riding of Saint-Léonard—Anjou state that they pay taxes just like residents of older wards.

A petition is being circulated in my riding, Mr. Speaker, but I will be unable to present it to the House because it was prepared before the new Standing Orders came into force. That is why I mention it today. Up to now I have 411 signatures from people of my riding who complain about Canada Post.

## ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

## THE ADMINISTRATION

MINISTER OF REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION—REQUEST  
FOR RESIGNATION

**Hon. Bob Kaplan (York Centre):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. I want to ask him if he has obtained the resignation of the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion, in light of the sleazy spectacle of a Minister in financial difficulty cashing in on ministerial connections to seek a very favourable loan agreement from a company which has benefited from his Department's programs.

● (1415)

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** No, Mr. Speaker, I have not secured, nor have I asked for, the resignation of the Minister for Regional Economic Expansion, and the Hon. Member for York Centre sets new records for indecency with his question.

## CONFLICT OF INTEREST GUIDELINES

**Hon. Bob Kaplan (York Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I was asking the Prime Minister for his understanding of the facts. Surely if his new guidelines mean anything, and if the guidelines from 1984 mean anything, especially in light of what the Prime Minister said in the House to me on June 6, 1985:

We must seek to avoid even the appearance of a conflict of interest.—surely that standard is violated by the spectacle of a Minister's wife getting benefits—

**Mr. Gormley:** Where is your question?

**Mr. Kaplan:**—seeking to obtain benefits for the family business from a company which has—

**Mr. Speaker:** Does the Hon. Member have a question, please?

**Mr. Kaplan:**—benefited from his departmental programs?

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** That is not a question, Mr. Speaker. That is just an attempt to slander somebody who is not here. The Member will have to do a lot better than that because what he has been associated with is character assassination, McCarthyism, and slander, and that is not good enough in Canada.