Petitions

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to, Bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: When shall the Bill be read the second time? At the next sitting of the House?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

* * *

[English]

PETITIONS

REQUEST FOR INQUIRY INTO USE OF CHEMICAL PESTICIDES

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops—Shuswap): Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure and, indeed, my honour to present a petition on behalf of a number of residents of Hinton, Alberta; Edmonton, Alberta; Kaslo, New Denver, Ainsworth, Meadow Creek, Nelson, Winlaw, Slocan, South Slocan, Fruitvale, Johnsons Landing and other centres.

These petitioners are concerned about the increasing number of chemicals used as herbicides and insecticides that have been proven to have harmful effects on human health. They believe that these chemicals also produce short and long-term harmful effects on non-target organisms, soil and water.

They call on the House of Commons to initiate a full public inquiry into the safety, testing, registration and regulation of the use of pesticides, and the examination of alternative ways of controlling pests such as biological control and plant derived pesticides.

• (1710)

OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED EXPANSION TO DORVAL AIRPORT

Hon. Bob Layton (Lachine): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present to the House of Commons a petition signed by many members of the riding of Lachine.

This petition supplements an earlier petition to the Minister of the Environment (Mr. McMillan) and the Minister of Transport (Mr. Crosbie) signed by more than 1,300 residents. They are concerned about a proposal made by the Department of Transport to expand the Dorval Airport, which would mean taking over the Dorval Municipal Golf Course which has acted as a recreational buffer zone between their community and the airport for 27 years. The petitioners are concerned that the loss of this green space will negatively affect the quality of life in their community.

They humbly pray and call upon Parliament to reconsider the present development plans and to maintain the existing golf course which guarantees an adequate buffer zone between the Dorval International Airport and the neighbouring residential area.

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. Doug Lewis (Parliamentary Secretary to Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to table the reply to Questions Nos. 123 and 132.

[Text]

MR. KURT WALDHEIM

Question No. 123-Mrs. Finestone:

1. Since June 1, 1986, did the Government issue instructions to Canada's ambassador to the United Nations with regard to halting payment by the United Nations of an annual retirement allowance to Mr. Kurt Waldheim and, if so, what were the instructions and what specific steps have been taken by the ambassador to halt payment of the said retirement allowance?

2. Since June 1, 1986, has Canada consulted with other nations about the Kurt Waldheim dossier and, if so (a) which countries (b) with what results?

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs): 1. The Canadian mission to the United Nations in New York was instructed to find out and report if it was possible for the UN to cancel the retirement allowance of an ex-Secretary General.

The Mission reported that Mr. Waldheim's pension was established by a resolution of the United Nations General Assembly. To rescind that pension a resolution to that effect would be required. This being a budgetary item, a two-thrids majority would be needed. It is very doubtful that such a resolution would carry a sufficient number of votes.

2. Yes. (a) U.S.A., Austria, Israël, the U.K., Yugoslavia, the Netherlands, France, Australia, New Zealand, Greece. (b) These consultations have helped to keep the Government abreast of developments and were helpful in determining Canada's position.

ASSISTANCE TO NEW BRUNSWICK POTATO FARMERS

Question No. 132—Mr. Howie:

In 1986, did the Government assist New Brunswick farmers with payments for the potato crop and, if so, what was the total amount paid?

Hon. John Wise (Minister of Agriculture): Yes, \$3,130,000.

[English]

Mr. Lewis: I ask that all the remaining questions be allowed to stand.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The questions enumerated by the Parliamentary Secretary have been answered. Shall the remaining questions stand?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.