

Routine Proceedings

[Translation]

GOVERNMENT SPENDING

Mr. Allan Koury (Hochelaga—Maisonneuve): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 36, I have the honour to present a petition signed by some 1,500 people from Montreal and more specifically Hochelaga—Maisonneuve and certified by the clerk of petitions.

The petitioners are concerned and want Parliament to pass legislation now to limit government spending.

[English]

UKRAINE

Mr. Rod Laporte (Moose Jaw—Lake Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise to present a petition dated November 22 which I just received very recently. The petition is signed by a number of members from the Ukrainian community in my riding of Moose Jaw—Lake Centre.

They call upon the government to recognize Ukraine, to recognize its independence and to move to establish full diplomatic relations.

On behalf of the Ukrainian community in Moose Jaw and on behalf of all constituents in Moose Jaw—Lake Centre, I want to congratulate the government on its swift recognition of Ukraine and would urge the government to press forward with its establishment of full diplomatic relations with the government and the people of Ukraine.

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QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 52 and 138.

[Text]

Question No. 52—Mr. Skelly (North Island—Powell River):

With respect to security of the mail (a) have many letter carriers have been robbed in (i) 1990 (ii) 1991 (b) are letter carriers permitted to leave government cheques in relay boxes and, if not,

for what reason (c) does Canada Post insist that government cheques be carried at all times by letter carriers (d) are keys to relay boxes given to contractors and, if so, what effect does that have on security (e) what measures has Canada Post taken to inform the public to be more careful with valuables shipped in the mail?

Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): A) Nationally, our incidents are as follows:

(i) In December 1990 there was one attempted robbery and one which resulted in the loss of approximately 120 pieces of mail.

(ii) In March 1991 there were two armed robberies of letter carriers, one resulting in the loss of official keys and the satchel and the other in the loss of keys.

No injuries were sustained in any of the above events.

B) As a result of a number of incidents relative to relay boxes, including theft and break-ins of these boxes, we implemented an interim protective measure to have letter carriers carry government cheques rather than sending them to their respective relay boxes. This measure was implemented March 1, 1991 and remains in place.

C) As indicated above, an interim procedure was implemented to have letter carriers carry government cheques rather than sending to relay boxes. This procedure is still in place.

D) Relay box keys are issued to contracted personnel for the purpose of delivering letter carrier relay bags at locations where employees are not used and for maintenance purposes. All such contractors are security screened by Canada Post and the keys are signed for and returned daily.

E) Canada Post corporation encourage its customers to purchase insurance when mailing items of intrinsic value within the guidelines of the corporation's policy.

Question No. 138—Mr. Nunziata:

Since 1988 have any members of the parliamentary press gallery entered into any contract with the government and, if so, (a) what are the names of the individuals (b) what was the nature of the contract or services provided (c) what was the individual paid?

Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): I am informed as follows: