

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops—Shuswap): Mr. Speaker, it is my honour to present a petition on behalf of a large number of Canadians who are concerned that the Government of Canada has imposed a retaliatory tariff on imported books. This has limited the access of Canadians to literature and information of all sorts particularly, as the previous speaker has indicated, during this time of year when people are purchasing more books than they would during the rest of the year. This penalizes Canadian consumers, book publishers, booksellers and distributors and Canada's culture, and the petitioners call upon Parliament to urge the Government to rescind this tariff which threatens irreparable harm to the Canadian book industry and compromises federal policy on the cultural industry with respect to free trade negotiations.

OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED CHANGES TO PATENT ACT

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops—Shuswap): I have another petition which draws to the attention of the House the Government's intention to change the Patent Act relating to prescription drugs. I think by all accounts it is accepted, except by the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs (Mr. Andre), that this will result in increased drug prices for Canadian consumers. In fact, I believe even the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs recently indicated that it will. This will severely restrict the ability of average Canadians to buy the necessary prescription drugs. The petitioners call upon Parliament to reject this legislation and urge the Government to reconsider its introduction.

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops—Shuswap): It is my pleasure to move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Churchill (Mr. Murphy):

That this House do now proceed to the Orders of the Day.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Kamloops-Shuswap (Mr. Riis) has moved, seconded by the Hon. Member for Churchill (Mr. Murphy), that the House do now adjourn—I am sorry, that the House do now proceed to the Orders of the Day.

Mr. Rompkey: That's the next one.

Mr. Murphy: Don't rush us.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member's comment was heard by the Chair but will be momentarily ignored.

We are now at Petitions in the proceedings, which has been going on for some minutes. I have already ordered this morning that it would be improper to move from Petitions to another item of business in the Routine Proceedings. However, with respect to the motion which has been put by the Hon. Member for Churchill, I draw to the attention of all Hon. Members the fact that this particular motion is covered by a specific rule of this House, that is, Standing Order No. 27:

A motion for reading the Orders of the Day shall have preference to any motion before the House.

Petitions

As a consequence I feel I am not entitled to take any discretion in this matter; nor can I call upon practice. I find that it is my duty and obligation to enforce the order. Therefore, it is the view of the Chair that the motion to proceed to Orders of the Day, moved by the Hon. Member for Kamloops—Shuswap (Mr. Riis), seconded by the Hon. Member for Churchill (Mr. Murphy), is in order.

Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: All those in favour please say yea.

Some Hon. Members: Yea.

Mr. Speaker: All those opposed please say nay.

Some Hon. Members: Nay.

Mr. Speaker: In my opinion the nays have it.

And more than five Members having risen:

Mr. Speaker: Call in the Members.

The House divided on the motion (Mr. Riis), which was agreed to on the following division:

• (1140)

(Division No. 25)

YEAS

Members

Allmand	Fulton	Mayer
Andre	Gauthier	Mazankowski
Axworthy	Gérin	McCain
Belsher	Girard	McCuish
Benjamin	Graham	McCurdy
Berger	Gray	McDermid
Bertrand	(Bonaventure—Îles-de-	McDonald
Blackburn	la-Madeleine)	(Broadview—
(Brant)	Greenaway	Greenwood)
Blackburn	Grisé	McDougall
(Jonquière)	Guilbault	(St. Paul's)
Blouin	(Saint-Jacques)	Mitchell
Boudria	Hawkes	Mitges
Bourgault	Hees	Murphy
Brisco	Hnatyshyn	Nicholson
Broadbent	Hockin	(Trinity)
Browes	Hopkins	Nicholson
Caccia	Hovdebo	(Niagara Falls)
Chartrand	Isabelle	Nowlan
Collins	Jelinek	Nystrom
Copps	Keeper	Oberle
Cossitt	Kindy	O'Neil
Crofton	King	Oostrom
Crouse	Ladouceur	Orlikow
Darling	Langdon	Ouellet
Desjardins	Lanthier	Parry
Dingwall	Lewis	Penner
Epp	MacDonald	Pennock
(Provencher)	(Kingston and	Price
Fennell	the Islands)	Prud'homme
Fontaine	Manly	Reid
Foster	Mantha	Ricard
Frith	Marin	Riis