

Routine Proceedings

I am sure, Mr. Speaker, you would agree with that.

[*Translation*]

GATT NEGOTIATIONS

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour and the privilege, pursuant to Standing Order 36, to present petitions signed by 700 constituents in the riding of Glengarry—Prescott—Russell. These constituents are very worried about the GATT negotiations. They humbly pray and call upon Parliament to urge the government to protect our supply management systems during these negotiations.

I would also like to inform the House that during the past three weeks, I tabled petitions with about 1,200 signatures, in addition to the 700 I tabled today, which means that a total of 1,900 people have demonstrated their interest in this very important matter.

[*English*]

Ms. Catherine Callbeck (Malpeque): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to present two petitions signed by people from my riding.

The first says that dairy and poultry farmers of Canada are concerned that the marketing systems may be in jeopardy due to the implementation of the free trade agreement and the current round of GATT negotiations.

Canadian dairy and poultry farmers have developed the most sophisticated marketing system in the world and provide high quality products to our consumers.

These petitioners are from such places in my riding as Lower Bedeque, Fernwood, Albany, Crapaud and other places. They instruct the government to hold our Canadian system up as an example to the rest of the world and to protect it in the current round of GATT negotiations.

• (1100)

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Ms. Catherine Callbeck (Malpeque): Mr. Speaker, the other petition I have concerns transportation links to Prince Edward Island.

The Government of Canada has constitutional responsibility for the development of these lines. The Government of Canada's long-term solution for the province's transportation needs, the contract for the bridge, has yet to be approved. Following the award of the contract it

may take seven to ten years to complete construction. The Government of Canada's ferry service between the province and the mainland is now being stretched beyond capacity.

These petitioners from places in my riding such as Cornwall, North River, Long Creek, Harrington and other communities. They say to the government that Prince Edward Islanders deserve and require a vastly improved ferry service.

VIA RAIL

Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg Transcona): Mr. Speaker, it is my honour to present two petitions today. The first one has to do with the cutbacks in VIA Rail service, signed by a great many of my constituents who have been directly affected by the cuts in VIA Rail and some who have had meaningful access to their cottages cut back severely.

They call upon the government to maintain VIA Rail, Canada's present national network, to upgrade VIA Rail with new equipment, and to give VIA Rail a sufficient budget to maintain its national mandate for passenger service.

TARTAN DAY

Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg Transcona): I have another petition here, Mr. Speaker. I note that the hon. member for Thunder Bay—Atikokan presented a petition having to do with Ukrainian heritage.

Mr. Speaker, as you might know, the Ukrainians and the Scots share a patron saint in St. Andrew. I have the honour to present a petition calling on the federal government to declare April 6, Tartan Day, in recognition of the rich heritage and enormous contribution of Canadians of Scottish descent.

I hope this petition might find favour with the Chair.

GATT

Mr. Ken Hughes (MacLeod): Mr. Speaker, I rise pursuant to Standing Order 36 as well with two petitions.

The first one is on behalf of numerous agricultural producers in the province of Alberta. Many of them are from the riding of MacLeod which I serve.

These producers are very concerned with the current multilateral negotiations at the Uruguay round on the