

Government Orders

CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD

Mr. Rod Laporte (Moose Jaw—Lake Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise today to present a petition on behalf of a number of farmers from Saskatchewan who are very concerned with what this government is doing with the orderly marketing system in this country, namely the Canadian Wheat Board.

The petitioners are very concerned that oats have been removed from the jurisdiction of the Canadian Wheat Board. They call upon this government to place oats under the jurisdiction of the Wheat Board and to give oats and barley the same protection under the Canadian Wheat Board that wheat now has.

That would mean that neither oats, barley nor wheat could be removed without Parliament deciding they should be removed and without proper consultation with the producers in western Canada.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Could I have unanimous consent to revert back to Presenting Reports from Committees?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

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FINANCE

REVISED 11TH REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. Don Blenkarn (Mississauga South): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present, in both official languages, the revised 11th report of the Standing Committee on Finance in relation to Bill C-83, an act to revise and amend the law governing federal loan and trust companies and to provide for related and consequential matters.

[Editor's Note: See today's Votes and Proceedings.]

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QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, I ask that all questions be allowed to stand.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Shall the remaining questions be allowed to stand?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, I would ask that all Notices of Motions for the Production of Papers stand.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Shall all Notices of Motions for the Production of Papers stand?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

HOUSE OF COMMONS

AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDERS

The House resumed from Tuesday, April 9, consideration of the motion of Mr. Andre (p. 19027) and amendment of Mr. Dingwall (p. 19156).

Mr. David Berger (Saint-Henri—Westmount): Mr. Speaker, as I rise to speak on the Conservative government's proposals to change the rules of the House, I cannot help but reflect on the tremendous contrast between the spirit and tenor of these proposals and the spirit and tenor of the McGrath report on parliamentary reform which was tabled in this House in 1985.

Let us, for a moment, cast our minds back to 1984-85. We had a newly-elected government, bright-eyed and bushy-tailed may I say, trying to figure out what it could do to enhance the role of Parliament and private members of Parliament. The government struck a committee chaired by the member from Newfoundland, Jim McGrath, which came up with a series of proposals.

The committee was concerned about a lack of confidence in the House of Commons which it referred to as our central democratic institution. In its report tabled in 1985, it said: "We must strengthen the role of the House of Commons, and the key to restoring confidence in our central democratic institution is to enhance the involvement of the private member of Parliament in a number of areas."