

take whatever steps are necessary to ensure that the RCMP is properly funded.

#### NORTH THOMPSON RIVER

**Mr. Lyle Kristiansen (Kootenay West—Revelstoke):** Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to present a petition concurrent with that presented by my colleague from Kamloops.

A number of my constituents from the city of Nelson, the villages of New Denver and Silverton, and the communities of Winlaw and Hills refer to the fact that Multinational Resources has announced the intention to dam the North Thompson River at Belmont to divert water to the Salem—San Diego, California area.

The petitioners urge the Government of Canada to state categorically that it will not permit our freshwater rivers to be dammed and diverted into the U.S.A. and to state that our Canadian rivers are not for sale.

#### PUBLIC SECTOR WORKERS

**Mr. Lyle Kristiansen (Kootenay West—Revelstoke):** Mr. Speaker, the second petition that I am very pleased to present, especially in view of some current events outside of this House, is a petition signed by some 137 of my constituents from virtually every community within my riding.

The petitioners point out that in recent months, the federal government was violating terms of its collective agreements with its own employees by contracting out the work of Public Service workers. Their belief is that the federal government was violating the human rights of its workers by not paying equal pay for work of equal value.

The signatories to this petition urge the Government of Canada to obey its own laws in future and to bargain in good faith to the loyal and hard-working, and world-respected public servants who are employed by the Government of Canada.

#### IMMIGRATION

**Mr. Mac Harb (Ottawa Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I have the pleasure to introduce a petition to this House on behalf of Canadians who are urging the government to take action when it comes to the thousands of refugees who are in Canada and who are trapped in the backlog.

#### Routine Proceedings

Many of these refugees are suffering from personal and economic hardship. As their future is being decided, their families abroad are really in a very difficult situation.

These petitioners call on the government to step up its actions when it comes to refugees and at the same time exercise compassion.

#### GASOLINE PRICES

**Mr. Fred J. Mifflin (Bonavista—Trinity—Conception):** Mr. Speaker, I have the privilege to rise this morning in this House and present a petition of 50 signatures by Canadians who are upset at the price of gas.

The petitioners want to draw the attention of the House to the fact that gasoline prices are higher than they believe they should be.

• (1020 )

Some provinces have eliminated the vehicle licence fees for parts of the provinces so that gas disparity can be overcome.

These petitioners call upon Parliament to urge the government to correct this injustice to motorists.

**Mr. Peter Milliken (Kingston and the Islands):** Mr. Speaker, my gallant and hon. colleague from Bonavista—Trinity—Conception has presented a petition along the same lines as the one I have.

It is signed by numerous residents of the Ottawa region, including Old Chelsea, Quebec; Smith Falls, Ontario; Ottawa, Ontario; and Gatineau, Quebec. These petitioners are opposed to the high gas prices being charged in this region, particularly the differences between here and southern Ontario. They call upon Parliament to urge the government to correct this injustice for Ottawa area motorists.

\* \* \*

#### 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. 51, 147, 182 and 192.