

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, January 25, 1988

The House met at 11 a.m.

Prayers

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

PETITIONS

PROPOSED FREE TRADE

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier): Mr. Speaker, it is my duty to table four petitions which concern the Mulroney-Reagan trade deal and explain that whereas the Mulroney Government has sold out Canada and received nothing in return, whereas Canadian industries are still not protected from U.S. trade laws, whereas the United States obtained everything it wanted in all key sectors, especially agriculture, energy, auto trade, financial services and investment, whereas thousands of Canadian jobs are threatened and the Conservative Government has not provided for any adjustment assistance for Canadian workers, wherefore the understand, your petitioners, humbly pray and call upon Parliament to denounce the Government for signing the Mulroney-Reagan trade agreement.

Ms. Audrey McLaughlin (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour and duty to present petitions from Hamilton, Ontario. The petitioners are objecting to the Government's trade deal in that this trade agreement would deny Canada the policy freedom to determine its own economic future.

In view of that, these petitioners call upon Parliament to dissolve and allow the people of Canada the opportunity to accept or reject this proposed free trade agreement.

OPPOSITION TO IRRADIATION IN FOOD PROCESSING

Mr. Elliott Hardey (Kent): Mr. Speaker, I have four petitions containing some 250 names of constituents from the riding of Kent. The petitioners humbly pray that food irradiation not become part of home food processing in this country.

They ask Parliament that further independent agencies and scientists do more complete study on the safety in this area and also ask that in the event any food irradiation is allowed it be clearly labelled "treated with ionizing radiation".

PROPOSED FREE TRADE

Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, I also have a petition signed by Canadians expressing their concern with the Government's trade agreement.

They believe the agreement negotiated by the Government threatens the very fabric of Canadian political economic sovereignty by removing the power of the Canadian Government to effectively control foreign ownership and develop Canadian resources in the best interest of Canadians, or to equalize opportunity between the regions.

• (1110)

They also believe that the proposed trade agreement would deny Canada the policy freedom to determine its own economic future and undermine our ability to build a society distinct from that of the United States.

Therefore the petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to dissolve and allow the people of Canada the opportunity to accept or reject the proposed trade agreement during a national general election.

PORNOGRAPHY—SUPPORT FOR BILL C-54

Mr. Geoff Wilson (Swift Current—Maple Creek): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition from a number of residents of Frontier, Saskatchewan who wish to express concerns regarding all aspects of pornography. They believe it is time for the Government of Canada to stop listening to dissenting voices and to take specific action to put laws into effect that will curb the spread of pornography and, in particular, to put in place laws that will protect children from the abuses that often result from exposure to explicit and sexually deviant materials.

The petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to take a stand on this issue and to pass Bill-C-54 intact which they view as absolutely crucial to the future welfare of children, families and the nation.

PROPOSED FREE TRADE

Mr. John R. Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour and responsibility to present a petition signed by residents of Chelmsford, Cartier, Dowling, Hanmer, Levack, Azilda, Val Thérèse and Garson, all in Ontario in the riding of Nickel Belt.

The petitioners point out that the Conservative Government had no mandate from the Canadian people to conclude a free trade agreement with the United States. Furthermore, they