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It was thus a visible demonstration of today's and tomorrow's Canada—many cultural traditions united around one national allegiance.

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### CANADA POST CORPORATION

#### LETTER CARRIERS' STRIKE—REPORTED USE OF STRIKE-BREAKERS DURING MEDIATION PROCESS

**Mr. Cyril Keeper (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, we welcome the appointment of a mediator in the postal dispute, and we hope this means a change of heart on the part of the Government to a policy of negotiation rather than confrontation.

However, I have received a disturbing report from Montreal that in fact the Post Office is continuing to use strike-breakers for security in the delivery of mail.

We call upon the Government and the Post Office to live up to their commitment that they would withdraw all strike-breakers during the period of mediation.

The annual report of the Post Office has shown that the deficit is well in hand. It has dropped over the last year by \$81 million. This excuse for confrontation with the postal unions is simply that—an excuse. The conciliator's report pointed out that the impasse in the negotiations was caused by the Government's post office plan and by its short deadline to reach financial self-sufficiency. We hope—

**Mr. Speaker:** I regret the Hon. Member's time has expired.

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### CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

#### PETITIONS SUPPORTING REINSTATEMENT

**Mr. Bill Domm (Peterborough):** Mr. Speaker, I rise to give notice to the House of a number of petitions I have received in my office over the past few days and weeks. As you know, representation through petitions has culminated in over 39,000 people across Canada expressing their views in support of a return to capital punishment.

Also I would like to advise the House that, in addition to these 39,256 names, I have also received another 5,827 signatures which, for technical reasons, do not conform to House rules for presentation of petitions. When included, these signatures now total over 45,000 Canadians.

Let me express my sincere thanks to groups such as CRY, Citizens Responding to You; Citizens United for Safety and

Justice; Citizens for Capital Punishment and Justice; Victims of Violence; Army, Air Force and Navy Veterans; New Brunswick Police Chiefs Association; RCMP Divisional Staff Representatives; Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police; Canadian Police Association, and the Ontario Provincial Police Association. These groups worked very hard in circulating these petitions and deserve the thanks of many Members of the House.

I would also like to point out that the Ontario youth wing of the PC Party totally endorses and supports a return to capital punishment.

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[Translation]

### ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

#### SAINT-AURICE RIVER—PROBLEM CAUSED BY LOGGING OPERATIONS

**Mr. Gilles Grondin (Saint-Maurice):** Mr. Speaker, my statement today concerns the problems caused by log drives on the longest river used for that purpose in Canada, the Saint-Maurice. As you know, the river runs through vast tracts of land in the Mauricie region, from La Tuque to Trois-Rivières.

The log drive has for many years caused serious problems, both for residents on the banks of the Saint-Maurice and for the rest of the population in this region. The pollution caused by the drive has reached alarming levels, according to a brochure published by the Quebec Department of the Environment, under the title: *La Saint-Maurice, une rivière en danger*. The brochure says, on page 17: "The log drives carried out for many years on this waterway have had a harmful impact on aquatic life and water quality. The floating logs, with the bark and the logs that sink and accumulate on the river bottom, release harmful substances, some at levels that are toxic to aquatic life". And a little further: "The floating logs continue to have a devastating impact as far as the St. Lawrence River."

This is a complex problem, since stopping the log drive would cost considerable economic problems in the region owing to the high cost of shipping the logs over land.

In April 1986, an agreement in principle to control log drives was reached. However, it seems the anticipated results have yet to materialize.

That is why I ask that all parties involved, including the federal Department of the Environment, the companies concerned, and other federal, provincial and municipal authorities, meet as soon as possible in order to find a feasible solution to this very serious problem in short order.