

rates in order that the people of Canada could have exercised that right. However, the commitments I made privately, over which we do not normally have to engage in discussion, I make publicly now. Sometime between now and the next time we meet as House Leaders, assuming that it does not occur before the caucus meeting of the New Democratic Party which will take place on next Wednesday, I will be able to enter into further discussions. Then at that time the resolution of this matter will undoubtedly be clear.

• (1540)

Mr. Lewis: Madam Speaker, in direct reply to the House Leader of the New Democratic Party, I would say that we did not have that difficulty in our caucus because our Members follow the proceedings of the House and are ready for it on Wednesday. In direct reply to the Government House Leader concerning his request as to how we might pass it, I would be pleased to meet with him and give him some suggestions at any time.

Mr. Pinard: Madam Speaker, perhaps the Hon. Member could give me suggestions as well on other legislation. We would be willing to consider passing other legislation very quickly too. I would welcome his advice, and especially his consent.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[Translation]

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

PRESENTATION OF FIFTH REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa-Vanier): Madam Speaker, I have the honour of tabling the Fifth Report of the Special Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons on Official Languages, to which a comprehensive response is requested, pursuant to Standing Order 69(13).

[Editor's Note: For above report, see today's Votes and Proceedings.]

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[English]

SOCIAL SECURITY

TABLING OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF CANADA AND JAMAICA

Hon. Monique Bégin (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Madam Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 46(2), I am very pleased to table in the House in both official languages an agreement between the Government of Canada and the Government of Jamaica with respect to social security.

Petitions

PETITIONS

MR. McKNIGHT—CROWNEST PASS FREIGHT RATES

Mr. Bill McKnight (Kindersley-Lloydminster): Madam Speaker, it is my duty to present a petition signed by 110,000 men and women in the Province of Saskatchewan where 40 per cent of the arable land of Canada is located. These petitioners reject the federal Government's transportation proposal because it fails to guarantee the following key elements: statutory non-variable freight rate protection on all prairie grains and their processed products with adequate recognition of producers' ability to pay, payment of Government transportation subsidies directly to the railways on all grain volumes shipped, assurance of adequate railway performance guarantees, and assurance that the ability of the Canadian Wheat Board to perform its function as a central marketing agency is protected.

This is in recognition of the regional needs of western Canada and the vital importance that the grain sector plays in the Canadian economy. Wherefore the undersigned, your petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to enact legislation that would address the key elements identified by the petitioners.

MR. TAYLOR—CONSIDERATION OF BILL C-671

Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River): Madam Speaker, I am herewith presenting a petition signed by another 563 Canadian citizens, asking for the consideration of Bill C-671 and the passing of same in order that Clifford Robert Olson may secure his just due and be executed.

When we had capital punishment in the country there was provision made for exceptions by the Cabinet not to execute a person. Now that we do not have capital punishment in Canada, there should also be a provision made for the execution of persons who have deliberately planned and murdered a number of people, as in the case of Clifford Robert Olson.

This petition will bring the number of persons who have asked that Bill C-671 be brought forward for debate and that Clifford Robert Olson be executed to over 2,400 persons.

MR. MURPHY—CROWNEST PASS FREIGHT RATES

Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): Madam Speaker, I wish you good luck in finding God and convincing him or her to return to the Conservative Party. My petition also relates to a religious matter, that is, the destruction of the holy Crow. Farmers in the Cartwright, Manitoba area, in the riding of Lisgar, have studied the proposal of the New Democratic Party to preserve the Crow rate and to upgrade and approve rail services in all parts of Canada. I wish to present a petition which is signed and supported by the people of the Cartwright area.