

Point of Order—Mr. Riis

camp, Saskadet, situated at Round Lake, Saskatchewan. These constituents rely on this camp for their cadet training. They humbly call upon Parliament to request the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Beatty) to consider the possibility of keeping this camp operable.

[Translation]

OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED CHANGES TO PATENT ACT

Mr. Cyril Keeper (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I have here a petition from a number of Canadians in which they express their concern about the changes proposed by the Government with respect to the Patent Act. These people indicate they are worried that the price of drugs will increase as a result of the proposed changes. They are therefore calling on Parliament to reject these proposals.

Mr. John Parry (Kenora—Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, it is my duty and privilege today, pursuant to Standing Order 106, to table a petition signed by residents of Luceville, Saint-Anaclet, Saint-Gabriel, Mont-Joli, Rimouski and a number of other communities in the riding of Matane in Quebec, who support the efforts of the Opposition to prevent the passage of amendments proposed by the Government that will lead to an increase in the price of drugs.

[English]

GASOLINE PRICES—LIMITED COMPETITION

Mr. John Parry (Kenora—Rainy River): I have another petition signed by residents of Red Lake and surrounding communities in my riding. The petitioners call upon the House of Commons to discourage limitations on competition in the oil and gas industry and ensure that Petro-Canada passes on lower oil prices to its consumers.

OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED CHANGES TO PATENT ACT

Mr. John Parry (Kenora—Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, my third petition this morning is signed by residents of Truro, Shubenacadie, Great Village and several other communities in Nova Scotia. The petition calls upon the federal Government to reject changes to the Patent Act which will lead inevitably to higher drug prices for Canadians.

LOW-LEVEL FLIGHTS AT ARMED FORCES BASE AT GOOSE BAY

Mr. John Parry (Kenora—Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, my fourth petition is signed by residents of Calgary, Lethbridge, Edmonton and other communities in the Province of Alberta. The petitioners call upon Parliament to ensure that all low level training at the Goose Bay Canadian Forces Base cease and that negotiations with NATO for the establishment of a larger base cease. They are very concerned, of course, about the hunting and way of life of native people in that particular area.

USE OF SUPERMAILBOXES

Mr. John Parry (Kenora—Rainy River): Finally, Mr. Speaker, I have a petition signed mainly by residents of

Toronto. I am glad to be presenting this petition on a day when we are debating the situation with the Post Office because the petition calls upon Parliament to prevent the spread of the so-called super mailboxes as a substitute for door-to-door delivery.

OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED CHANGES TO PATENT ACT

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops—Shuswap): Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to present a petition on behalf of a number of eastern Canadians from Atlantic Canada who protest the Government's intention to proceed with the amendments to the Patent Act which will result in increased prescription drug prices to Canadians.

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POINT OF ORDER

USE OF PRIVATE MEMBERS' HOUR

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops—Shuswap): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order to draw to your attention that on December 5, at the close of the day, the Acting Speaker said the following at page 1853 of *Hansard*:

I have received written notice from the Hon. Member for Peterborough (Mr. Domm) that he is unable to be present in the House on Monday, December 8, 1986, to move his motion during the hour for Private Members' Business. Accordingly, I am directing the Table to drop that item of business to the bottom of the order of precedence.

Since notice will thereby be removed, the hour for Private Members' Business will be suspended, and pursuant to Standing Order 39(2) the House will continue with the business before it prior to that hour until the ordinary hour of daily adjournment.

I raise this matter because I noticed, in recalling the vote yesterday, that the Hon. Member for Peterborough (Mr. Domm) was in fact in the House at the designated time for Private Members' Business. I also recall that immediately following, the Government moved to extend the hours of the sitting. Immediately, once that had taken place at second reading, the Hon. Member for Mississauga South (Mr. Blenkarn) was the only person to rise to speak from the Government benches. He moved that the question be now put which brought the extended hours to an end.

It seems to me there may be a case to be made whereby the Government might have misused its powers and the time of Private Members' Hour to manipulate the business of the House to allow just that to take place, to allow the Government to extend the hours to complete second reading of the Bill which had simply been introduced for the first time at second reading that day.

It seems to me a potentially very serious question has been raised.

Mr. Speaker: Order. I take it from what the Hon. Member for Kamloops—Shuswap (Mr. Riis) said that he is raising an important matter but he is not making any sort of charge