

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, October 13, 1987

The House met at 11 a.m.

Prayers

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*English*]

STRIKING

PRESENTATION OF THIRTY-THIRD REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Hon. Doug Lewis (Minister of State and Minister of State (Treasury Board)): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present the thirty-third report of the Striking Committee. If the House gives its consent, I intend to move concurrence in the report later this day.

[*Editor's Note: See today's Votes and Proceedings.*]

CONCURRENCE IN THIRTY-THIRD REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Hon. Doug Lewis (Minister of State and Minister of State (Treasury Board)): Mr. Speaker, if the House gives its consent, I move, seconded by the Hon. Minister of State responsible for the status of women (Mrs. McDougall), that the thirty-third report of the Striking Committee presented to the House earlier this day be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

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• (1110)

PETITIONS

OPPOSITION TO TAX ON FOOD

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 106, I have the pleasure of tabling a petition signed by residents of the National Capital Region. They humbly declare that; whereas since September, 1984, the federal Government has imposed on Canadian taxpayers 25 new taxes or tax increases, in particular on medical and dental supplies, snack foods, candy and soft drinks; whereas the federal Government in its tax reform proposal is studying the

possibility of imposing on Canadians a general tax on goods and services, including food; whereas food constitutes a vital element in day-to-day life and the imposition of this tax would have the effect of seriously penalizing certain categories of taxpayers such as the aged, families, unemployed, low-income taxpayers, youth, et cetera; wherefore the undersigned petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to reject all measures that would have the effect of imposing a sales tax on food products.

OPPOSITION TO DESTAFFING WEST COAST LIGHTHOUSES

Mr. Ray Skelly (Comox—Powell River): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour and duty to present a petition from residents of Vancouver Island and the coast of British Columbia who humbly request the Parliament of Canada to take action to stop the destaffing of lighthouses on the coast of British Columbia. The petitioners further request that there be a moratorium imposed on this program until such time as a proper study can be done. In addition, they wish the Minister of Transport (Mr. Crosbie) would appear in Campbell River at the first public meeting to account for the program initiated by his department.

REQUEST FOR CHANGE TO TAX LAWS—EXEMPTION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

Mrs. Barbara Sparrow (Calgary South): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to table a certified petition signed by 31 residents of Calgary who humbly pray and call upon Parliament to change the taxation laws of Canada, specifically the taxation of senior citizens. These people have worked and paid taxes all their lives and the undersigned petitioners believe that senior citizens receiving \$45,000 or less per year should not pay income tax or any other taxes.

CONSTITUTIONAL ACCORD—UNANIMITY CLAUSE AND ABORIGINAL RIGHTS

Ms. Audrey McLaughlin (Yukon): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition from the residents of the Yukon territory who wish to take this opportunity to express their concern over the fact that they were not consulted about nor were a signatory to the Meech Lake Accord. They therefore call upon Parliament to withdraw the requirement for unanimous consent for the creation of new provinces and to further ensure that aboriginal rights are entrenched. They call for further aboriginal conferences as well.