HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, June 3, 1986

The House met at 11 a.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[Translation]

PETITIONS

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

Mr. Doug Lewis (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 106(8), I have the honour to table in both official languages the Government's response to six petitions: Nos. 331-430, 331-466 to 331-468 inclusive, 331-526 and 331-528.

[English]

THE ADMINISTRATION

TABLING OF REVISED ACTING MINISTERS LIST

Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 67(2), I am pleased to table, in both official languages, copies of the revised Acting Ministers list.

[Translation]

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

Mr. Doug Lewis (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I ask that all questions be allowed to stand.

Mr. Speaker: Shall all questions stand?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed

[English]

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

DESIGNATION OF ALLOTTED DAY

Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I simply rise this morning to announce that tomorrow will be a further allotted day.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

BUSINESS OF SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY, S.O. 82—CANADA-U.S. FREE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS—SUSPENSION OF UNILATERAL TARIFF ACTION

Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa) moved:

That this House condemns the failure of the Government to act in Canada's interests in the free trade discussion with the United States and, in particular, for its failure to obtain an agreement to suspend unilateral tariff action by either country during the period of these discussions.

He said: Mr. Speaker, I notice the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Clark) clapping. I hope he will maintain that disposition later when he hears what I have to say on a subject on which, however else we may disagree, we will be united in our view that it is one of great importance to the country.

At the outset I want to say that in its relations with the United States the Government has now clearly revealed for the whole country, if not for itself, its failure to obtain gain for Canada through what it thought was its unique capacity, namely, its friendly disposition. From the time the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) and his Cabinet formed a Government, it was contended in economic relations with the United States that we as a nation would make considerable gains. I say to the Secretary of State for External Affairs, who is directly responsible for these important negotiations, welcome to the real world.

We learned last week that a decision made in Washington could throw 4,000 Canadian workers out of jobs in the shakes and shingles sector. Yesterday we learned of a major new tariff imposed upon our steel industry, which will affect another part of Canada. Tomorrow, I suspect, we will hear of another adverse decision coming out of Washington which will have terrific negative effects on softwood producers across the country.