Mr. Cassidy: With respect, Mr. Speaker, I am not sure whether it is in order, but the petition is certainly given to me as a Member of Parliament for communication to this House of Commons.

Mr. Speaker: The Member by raising it attests that it is in order, I take it? I think the Member knows that.

Mr. Cassidy: I think that is determined by the Chair afterwards, Mr. Speaker. There is no question about the intention of the petitioners who wish to acquaint this House of Commons with their opposition to the deindexing of the family allowance.

The next two petitions are from a number of petitioners in Toronto and in Fort Erie who express concern over the cut-back in family allowance which in their view, is inequitable and unbearable—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. With great respect, I take it that all of these petitions are on the same subject?

Mr. Cassidy: —and express—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I take it that all the petitions are on the same subject, in which case the Member knows that he simply has about 10 or 15 seconds to indicate that he has a large number of petitions that he wishes to table.

Mr. Cassidy: Mr. Speaker, in that case I will conclude by tabling petitions from the Province of Quebec demanding that Bill C-70 be withdrawn, and by tabling further petitions which come from my riding of Ottawa Centre and other parts of Ottawa expressing opposition and asking that the deindexation of family allowances be rescinded.

Mr. Iain Angus (Thunder Bay-Atikokan): Mr. Speaker, I have a petition signed by 57 residents of the great village of Toronto who suggest strongly that the Government has made a mistake in its attempt to deindex family allowances. They call upon this House to reinstate full indexation.

I have another petition signed by 26 residents of the Mississauga area of Metropolitan Toronto who suggest that the deindexation of family allowance will not be offset by changes to the child tax credit. They call upon this House to reinstate fully indexed family allowances.

Finally, I have a petition signed by 50 residents from the communities of Downsview, Willowdale, Cooksville, Scarborough and Don Mills, all in the Toronto area, who also call upon the Government to rescind this attempt to deindex family allowances.

Mr. Ernie Epp (Thunder Bay-Nipigon): Mr. Speaker, I have the duty and the honor to present petitions from residents of northern Ontario protesting the decision of the Government to deindex universal family allowance. These petitioners point out that the deindexation will not be offset by changes to the child tax credit and that even the poorest families will be worse off by 1990. These petitioners, over 150 of them, call upon the House of Commons to re-establish indexation of the family allowance. They live in the ridings of Thunder Bay-Atikokan, Thunder Bay-Nipigon and Cochrane-Superior. They are to be found in the City of Thunder Bay, Nalalu, Kaministikwia and in the outskirts, in Dorion, Hurkett, Red Rock and Nipigon, and in Cochrane-Superior, at Heron Bay and Longlac.

• (1540)

Mr. Speaker: I thank the Hon. Member for the travelogue.

Ms. Margaret Mitchell (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present several different petitions. They are only some of literally hundreds of thousands of petitions which have come to the offices of this caucus. I know that many more have been sent to the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney).

The first petition is from the community of Mount Pleasant, which is in my riding of Vancouver East. It states that the family allowance deindexation will not be offset by changes to the child tax credit and that even the poorest families will be worse off by 1990. Therefore, they call upon the House of Commons to reinstate full indexation of the universal family allowance and to rescind unfair tax increases.

The second petition is from quite a different group in North York. It asks the Prime Minister and the House of Commons to restore full indexation to the family allowance and child tax credit. Also it says that this budget measure will take away $55 million in family benefits by 1987. Mostly women from North York signed this petition.

The next petition is from Women Against the Federal Budget. It is signed by quite a number of women from the regions of North Vancouver, Seymour, Vancouver Centre, Vancouver-Kingsway, Vancouver South and Winnipeg, Manitoba. The Women Against the Federal Budget say: "We, the undersigned, believe that children are everyone's responsibility and that all parents should receive Government assistance, whose value is at least as high or higher"—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I think the Hon. Member is engaging both in making a speech and in reading the petition. I ask the Hon. Member to make a summary of the petition, please.

Ms. Mitchell: The petitioners ask that the budget proposals which will reduce the cost of living protection of the family allowance, be rescinded. They demand that they be withdrawn as soon as possible. No time like today.

The final petition I should like to present today is from Surrey-Delta in British Columbia, among other regions such as North Vancouver, the City of Vancouver itself and Burnaby. This petition indicates that cut-backs in the family allowances and the tax increases are inequitable and unbearable in the face of budget hand-outs of $500,000—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Hon. Member has indicated where the petition is from.

Ms. Mitchell: They call for—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.