

S.O. 21

The one point which must be made is that Manitobans at this point in time must not give up hope. It is only a proposal and it can be defeated.

I urge the Government not only to instruct its Ministers but also to give an indication to the Province of Manitoba that an all-Party Committee, as was suggested, will move forthwith to present itself in Washington to put up a strong showing against this particular proposal.

Madam Speaker: The Hon. Member for Dauphin (Mr. Lewycky).

[Editor's Note: The Hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Nielsen) and the Right Hon. Member for Yellowhead (Mr. Clark) having entered the Chamber:]

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewycky: Madam Speaker, this is the first time that the entire Conservative caucus has risen and applauded me. I assume it is because of the statement I want to make on the Crow.

* * *

RAILWAYS

CROWSNEST PASS RATE—OPPOSITION TO ANNOUNCED CHANGES

Mr. Laverne Lewycky (Dauphin): Yesterday in Winnipeg the Minister of Transport (Mr. Pepin), with his announcement on the Crow rate, dealt a crushing blow to farmers in western Canada. With this latest action the Government has completely destroyed the already tenuous survival of farmers who really provide the country with such a fundamental necessity as its daily food. In fact, while the Minister of Transport was making his announcement, many of us were meeting with delegations from the Canadian Farmers' Survival Association. These men are desperate. Prices for grain have been falling, interest rates are climbing, and the banks are foreclosing their farms. Now the Government is throwing farmers to the mercy of the railways. This will be a millstone around the necks of farmers in western Canada. Specifically in Manitoba, there was nothing in the announcement with regard to Churchill or to the farmers of Manitoba.

I have received a strongly worded resolution, passed unanimously by some 300 people at a meeting in Swan River, which reads:

That this meeting go on record as being strongly opposed to the Pepin efforts to dismantle the Crow.

I present it to the House.

CANADA POST CORPORATION

SUGGESTED ISSUANCE OF UNITED EMPIRE LOYALIST COMMEMORATIVE STAMP

Mr. Bob Corbett (Fundy-Royal): Madam Speaker, this year and next mark the bicentennial anniversary of the arrival of the United Empire Loyalists to Canada. They were a people who were instrumental in founding the nation we cherish today. They carried with them a loyalty and patriotism which forged a strong bond with England, and assured the French and English colonies protection against the threat of American Imperialism. The Loyalists introduced many of the social values and ideals we prize, as they brought with them British society, Government, and character.

● (1410)

A great many Canadians can proudly trace their families back 200 years to the arrival of these diligent and patriotic people and, in doing so, proudly boast their Loyalist origins.

It is my understanding Canada Post is considering issuing a stamp in 1984 to commemorate the bicentennial of the Loyalist arrival. To honour these settlers, their descendants, and their legacy, I appeal to the Postmaster General and his cabinet colleagues to issue a commemorative stamp honouring the arrival of the United Empire Loyalists. Loyalist descendants will be celebrating the bicentennial with pride, and are asking the Government of Canada to acknowledge properly the significant contributions and historical importance of the Loyalist immigration.

* * *

TRUST COMPANIES

CALL FOR REFERRAL OF WHITE PAPER TO COMMITTEE

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Madam Speaker, the following exist as fact. First, in the fall of 1980, at the time of the passing of the Bank Act, the then Minister of State for financial institutions promised the committee that there would be a whole new trust company act brought forward within a matter of a month or two.

Second, the Government has now tabled a white paper on trust company act provisions.

Third, negotiations did take place between representatives of the Government side and members of the Opposition with regard either to referring the contents of a new trust company bill or, as it turns out, this white paper, to a special committee so that we could get on with work on the legislation.

Fourth, the actual setting up of the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs under the new rules would take at good two or three weeks at least.

Therefore I would suggest to the Hon. Ministers responsible that there be an immediate referral of the contents of the white paper, or of a new trust company act, to a special committee of