

Government of Canada has had no difficulty in understanding its intent, which can readily be determined from the actions we have taken during the past year to implement its recommendations.

The actions the federal government has taken are well recognized in western Canada, but it would be useful to outline them again here. Eleven days after the Hall commission report was tabled in the House of Commons, the most important recommendation in the Hall report was implemented when some 1,800 miles of prairie rail line was added to the basic network guaranteed to the year 2000. This increased the total guaranteed package to 14,226 miles, which now make up three-quarters of all prairie trackage.

The creation of the Prairie Rail Action Committee is another extremely important initiative by the government. It distresses me that certain parties choose to downgrade the time and effort that four westerners are putting into the work of this committee. It has already made a valuable contribution to the evolution of our grain handling system by quickly relieving the uncertainty in several communities concerning the future of their rail lines, and promises to do the same for many more communities before its term is up.

But perhaps the most beneficial program the Government of Canada has implemented is its program to upgrade prairie

branch lines. This process began last fall and its effect is visible for all to see on the Conquest subdivision. The government has committed \$175 million for the first three years of what will be a ten-year program. When it is completed, all branch lines will be capable of carrying hopper cars at higher speeds than is generally the case now. This will sharply increase the volume of grain which can be moved by our transportation system. Due to the rapid deterioration of the system, we had to move quickly to prevent it from breaking down completely, and this the Government of Canada has done.

The recent decision to invest in improvements in Prince Rupert is yet another example of carrying out a Hall report recommendation.

If I had more time, I would be able to tell the House more about transportation, Mr. Speaker.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner): Order, please. The motion to adjourn the House is now deemed to have been adopted. Accordingly, the House stands adjourned until tomorrow at two o'clock.

Motion agreed to and the House adjourned at 10.20 p.m.