

contributed \$6.3 billion to the balance of trade. The undersigned believe this is the farmers' fair contribution to the Canadian economy and that western farmers will pay one times the Crow, which means no change and, wherefore, the undersigned petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to maintain the present statutory grain rate, which is the Crow rate, and as duty bound your petitioners will ever pray.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The Chair is recognizing Members in the second row to my left. I would ask other Members to be seated.

**An Hon. Member:** When do we get our turn?

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg-Birds Hill):** Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition on behalf of Canadian citizens in Cut Knife, Battleford and Landis and a number of other Saskatchewan towns. These residents of Canada now exercise their right to present a grievance which humbly sheweth that western Canadian farmers paid \$131 million to move export grain under the Crow freight rate in the 1981-1982 crop year. This grain in turn contributed \$6.3 billion to the balance of trade. These petitioners believe this is the farmers' fair contribution to the Canadian economy and that the western farmers will pay one times the Crow, which is to say, Mr. Speaker, no change. Wherefore these petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to maintain the present statutory grain Crow rate, and as duty bound these petitioners will ever pray. This petition was signed on Tuesday, May 17, 1983.

**Mr. Simon de Jong (Regina East):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to join with my other colleagues in presenting a petition to you this afternoon that has been presented to me by Canadians from in and around the city and town of North Battleford, Saskatchewan. These petitioners are petitioning the House of Commons assembled here to present their grievances to the House. These petitioners humbly sheweth or is it showeth?

**Mr. Blaikie:** If the shoeth fitteth, weareth.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The Hon. Member can do his best. I am sure *Hansard* will do its job.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. de Jong:** The petition humbly sheweth that western Canadian farmers paid \$131 million to move export grain under the Crow freight rate in the 1981-1982 crop year. It is estimated that in the following decade the amount will come close to \$1 billion, meaning that close to \$600 for every man, woman and child will be paid to the railroads. This will mean less money spent in Saskatchewan, a decrease in jobs and sales in many of the communities from which many of these petitioners come. That is why these petitioners are so concerned. They are not only farmers but salesmen, shopkeepers and housewives, etc.

### Petitions

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The Hon. Member needs to state only the petition.

**Mr. de Jong:** This export grain in turn contributed some \$6.3 billion to the balance of trade and to the benefit of all Canada. These petitioners believe this is the farmers' fair contribution to the Canadian economy. Indeed, as I mentioned before, Mr. Speaker, so do I. Western farmers at present pay one times Crow, and that is what they are willing to pay, which means no change. Wherefore, these petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to maintain the present statutory grain rate, meaning the Crow rate, and as duty bound these petitioners will ever pray. This petition was dated Tuesday, May 17, 1983.

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## PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Before calling on Hon. Members in the first row on my left the Chair would like to announce questions to be raised tonight during the adjournment debate.

It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 45, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the Hon. Member for Carleton-Charlotte (Mr. McCain)—Agriculture—New Brunswick potato industry. (b) Request for ministerial action; the Hon. Member for Winnipeg-Assiniboine (Mr. McKenzie)—National Defence—Aircraft—Allocation of work—Starting date; and the Hon. Member for Mégantic-Compton-Stanstead (Mr. Tessier)—Canada Council—Alleged scandal at Sherbrooke, P.Q.

The Chair felt that, with consent, that was the appropriate moment at which to introduce a slightly different note.

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## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

### PETITIONS

RETENTION OF CROWSNEST PASS RATE

**Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain):** Mr. Speaker, I also have the honour to present a petition on behalf of a number of residents, some from Saskatchewan and some from the Province of Ontario, including Timothy Woods, to the Honourable House of Commons in Parliament assembled. These petitioners, residents of Canada, now exercise their right to present a grievance. It humbly sheweth that western Canadian farmers paid \$131 million to move export grain under the Crow rate in