

*Petitions*

provide a remedy, humbly sheweth that staff cutbacks have occurred at the Regional Psychiatric Centre in Saskatoon. Wherefore the undersigned, your petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to provide sufficient staff at the said Regional Psychiatric Centre to assure the safety of the staff and the general public, and as in duty bound your petitioners will ever pray.

## RETENTION OF CROWSNEST PASS RATES

**Mr. Stan J. Hovdebo (Prince Albert):** Madam Speaker, it is my honour and duty to present a petition on behalf of 158 residents of Canada.

To the Honourable the House of Commons of Canada in Parliament assembled, the petition of the undersigned residents of the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Ontario who now exercise their right to present a grievance humbly sheweth that the removal of the Crow rate will see its replacement by rates that will impose higher freight costs of five times the present Crow rate; that the increases will be imposed at a time when prices for producers' grain are now at the 1974 level; that detailed calculations show that a rate of 5.1 times the Crow rate will cost the community of Hudson Bay \$789,700 in each year in the payment of grain freight that would have otherwise stayed in the community based on the actual deliveries in 1980-81. Wherefore the undersigned, your petitioners, humbly pray and call upon Parliament to maintain the Crow rate in perpetuity as presently guaranteed by statutes, and as in duty bound your petitioners will ever pray.

**Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina West):** Madam Speaker, I have the honour and the duty to present a petition from 37 residents of Canada, 34 of whom are members of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool and who come from Melville, Invermay, Preeceville and Spy Hill, in which they humbly sheweth that western Canadian farmers paid \$131 million to move export grain under the Crow freight rate in the 1981-82 crop year. This grain in turn 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. Wherefore the undersigned, your petitioners, humbly pray and call upon Parliament to maintain the present statutory grain rate, and as in duty bound your petitioners will ever pray.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville):** Madam Speaker, I wish to present a petition.

The petition of the undersigned residents of Canada who now exercise their ancient and unchallenged rights to present a grievance, with the assurance that your Honourable House will provide a remedy.

Humbly sheweth that:

Whereas western Canadian farmers paid \$131 million to move export grain under the Crow freight rate in the 1981-82 crop year.

That this contributed \$6.3 billion to the balance of trade of Canada

Whereas the undersigned believe that this is the farmers' fair contribution to the Canadian economy.

And whereas western farmers will pay one time Crow.

Wherefore the undersigned humbly call upon Parliament to maintain the present statutory grain Crow rate.

And as in duty bound your petitioners will ever pray.

[*English*]

**Mr. Simon de Jong (Regina East):** I thank you, Madam Speaker, for this opportunity to present the following petition to you and to the House. It is a petition, Madam Speaker, of some 35 Canadian citizens, mainly from centres such as Cut Knife, North Battleford, Adams, Grand Forks, et cetera, in the Province of Saskatchewan.

The petitioners wish to petition you, Madam Speaker, and the House, and humbly sheweth that western Canadian farmers paid some \$131 million to move export grain under the Crow freight rate in the 1981-82 crop year and that this grain in turn made a contribution of some \$6.3 billion to the balance of trade for Canada. The undersigned petitioners are mainly farmers and believe that this is a fair contribution to the Canadian economy. They are willing to continue to pay this amount to move export grain. They do feel, however, that the proposed legislation will put a burden on them which will force many of them out of business. They therefore wish to present this petition, Madam Speaker, and I as well as the petitioners thank you for being afforded the opportunity of presenting this petition.

**Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena):** Madam Speaker, I too have the honour to present a petition in relation to the Crow rate, a petition primarily from the residents of Dawson Creek, Pouce Coupe, Grand Prairie and other small communities in that area.

To the Honourable the House of Commons of Canada in Parliament assembled, the petition of the undersigned residents of the Provinces of British Columbia and Alberta who now exercise their right to present a grievance humbly sheweth that the removal of the Crow rate will see its replacement by rates that will impose higher freight rate costs of five times the present Crow rate and higher by 1990; that such increases are being imposed at a time when prices for producers' grain are now at 1974 levels; and that detailed calculations show that a rate of five to one times the Crow rate will cost the community of Dawson Creek \$4,658,800 in payments for grain freight rates that would otherwise have stayed in that community based on actual deliveries in the 1980-81 crop year. Wherefore the undersigned, your petitioners, humbly pray and call upon Parliament to maintain the Crow rate in perpetuity as presently guaranteed by statutes, and as in duty bound your petitioners will ever pray.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby):** Madam Speaker, I wish to present a petition on behalf of residents of Landis, Wilkie, Unity and Luseland in Saskatchewan.