

Customs Tariff

signed by several hundred of the electorate from my part of the country. These petitions have been properly certified according to Standing Order 36.

All of the signatories condemn the Government for its emasculation of VIA Rail and its intention to cancel routes across Canada. The petitioners point out that this is an unreasonable thing to do in the context of the need for a reconstructed system of transportation.

They humbly pray and call upon Parliament to maintain, improve, and modernize VIA Rail in those area of the country where it can provide a more rapid, economical, safe, convenient, environmentally sound and energy efficient alternative to other modes of transportation.

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QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Government House Leader): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to answer Question No. 77 today.

[Text]

CROWN-GRANT LOGS

Question No. 77—**Mr. Gardiner:**

1. For the past ten years, how many applications to export Crown-grant logs from the "E & N" lands have been received from (a) MacMillan-Bloedel (b) British Columbia Forest Products (c) Fletcher Challenge (d) Canfor (e) Canadian Pacific Forest Products?

2. Were such bids made by B.C. manufacturers and, if so, (a) how many (b) what was the comparison with bids made to export lumber by smaller manufacturers?

Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister of International Trade): From 1986 federal statistics show over 400 applications were received for the export of Crown-grant logs. Specific information about companies is of a commercial and confidential nature.

Prior to issuing export permits, bids are solicited from interested log buyers by notification in the "Canada Gazette" and/or directly to potential buyers to determine whether or not shipments are surplus. The determination of whether logs are surplus is made by the Timber Export Advisory Committee (TEAC) consisting of federal and provincial authorities, and industry ex-

perts. Record of the bids is maintained by TEAC and are retained by the provincial government authorities. Federal records of permits are retained for approximately one year as permit validity is restricted to 120 days.

[English]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The question as enumerated by the Parliamentary Secretary has been answered.

Mr. Cooper: Mr. Speaker, I would ask that the remaining questions be allowed to stand.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Shall the remaining questions be allowed to stand?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

• (1120)

[English]

CUSTOMS TARIFF

MEASURE TO AMEND

The House proceeded to the consideration of Bill C-17, an Act to amend the Customs Tariff, as reported (without amendment) from a legislative committee.

Hon. John McDermid (for Minister of State (Finance)) moved that the Bill be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. McDermid (for Minister of State (Finance)) moved that the Bill be read the third time and passed.

Mr. Douglas Young (Gloucester): Mr. Speaker, I have a few comments on Bill C-17. When the Bill was presented earlier, we indicated our support for this legislation.

As the finance critic for the Opposition indicated in his remarks earlier, we are concerned about the question of importation of pornographic materials. Although we recognize that the extension that is provided for in this Bill will be helpful, it is to be hoped that greater certainty be established through either regulation or by legislation to provide for a more structured means by which the importation of pornography can be controlled.