

thing, but points of order which are simply repetitive and making a point which was made before, I believe with all due respect—

An Hon. Member: How about the petitions?

Mr. Smith: They are simply the same petition word for word and presented on the same day.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Chair is in a difficult position. The Chair asks Hon. Members to reflect on the dignity of the House and to maintain the decorum which is appropriate in the circumstances, difficult though it may be. The Hon. Member for Selkirk-Interlake.

Mr. Orlikow: Point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Chair will recognize the Hon. Member for Winnipeg North and seriously requests the Hon. Member, if he does not have a legitimate point of order, not to attempt to take the time of the House. However, I will recognize him.

Mr. Orlikow: Mr. Speaker, my point will be very brief. The Minister, in raising his alleged point of order, said—and I am sure that *Hansard* will show this—that the signatures which are being presented in these petitions were “alleged” signatures.

Mr. Smith: One was not even signed.

Mr. Orlikow: I suggest, Mr. Speaker, to the Hon. Minister that he is impugning the honesty of Members of Parliament, and I take—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Member is not making a point of order. The Hon. Minister of Supply and Services has indicated that he is going to rise after every petition. The Chair is not in a position to rewrite the rules under such circumstances. I cannot help but feel that there may well be some merit to the contention of the Hon. Minister of Supply and Services, but the facts are that the Chair is a servant of the House and the Chair must observe the Standing Orders of the House.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Deans: And so should the Government.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: In the circumstances, the Chair recognizes the Hon. Member for Selkirk-Interlake.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Terry Sargeant (Selkirk-Interlake): Mr. Speaker, I wish to present a petition on behalf of 43 citizens of Saskatchewan.

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:

Petitions

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. Robert Bockstael (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, I wish to quote from Erskine May Parliamentary Practice, Fifteenth Edition, under “Presentation of Petitions to the Commons”. It reads:

—a Member may present a petition, at any time during the sitting of the House, by placing it in the petition bag kept at the back of the Speaker's chair.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Bockstael: Mr. Speaker, since all Members of Parliament want to put the House of Commons to work and accomplish their duties, I have acquired a bag used for Royal Mail which I suggest you hang behind your chair and invite—

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Some Hon. Members: Out! out! out!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. Order, please. The Hon. Member's intervention has the aspect of novelty, which is a little welcome. Nevertheless, a display is not permitted in the House. We are following the procedure spelled out in the Standing Orders. The Hon. Member for New Westminster-Coquitlam (Miss Jewett).

Miss Pauline Jewett (New Westminster-Coquitlam): Mr. Speaker, I also would like to present a petition on behalf of 38 working farmers and retired farmers who live in Willow Bunch, Saskatchewan, which is south of Swift Current. This is a petition duly signed by the 38 working and retired farmers to whom I just referred who say to this Honourable House of Commons in Parliament assembled that western Canadian farmers paid \$131 million to move export grain under the Crow freight rate in the 1981-82 crop year. They want particularly to emphasize that this grain, in turn, contributed \$6.3 billion to the balance of trade. These farmers, the 38 who have signed the petition, believe that this is a fair contribution from the farmers of western Canada to the Canadian economy and that farmers should continue to pay one times the Crow, which is to say, no change, and humbly pray and call upon this Parliament to maintain the present statutory Crow rate.