

Petitions

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.

Mr. Blais: Mr. Speaker, I have a point of order. It is based upon the additional petition which has just been read. I suggest that members of the NDP are indicating by their behaviour their adoption of a systematic tactic whereby they are preventing us from reaching the Orders of the Day and dealing with the Bill which ought to be debated on this day, as announced by the Government House Leader.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I believe the Hon. Minister has now been recognized four times on the same point. The Hon. Member for Churchill (Mr. Murphy).

Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, I suppose the Hon. Member opposite would be happy if I switched petitions—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Would the Hon. Member deal with his petition, please.

Mr. Murphy: I just want to oblige the House. I have a petition signed by the residents of three different Provinces expressing their opinions on the Crow rate. In their petition to the Hon. House of Commons in Parliament assembled the undersigned residents of Canada exercise their traditional and long-standing right in suggesting that the western Canadian farmers have paid \$131 million to move export grain under the Crow freight rate in the 1981-82 crop year. This grain, in turn, has contributed over \$6.3 billion to the balance of trade in this country. The undersigned in the three different Provinces believe that this is the farmers' fair contribution to the Canadian economy and that western farmers should pay one times the Crow, no change. Therefore, the undersigned, your petitioners, humbly pray and call upon Parliament to maintain the present statutory grain Crow rate and, as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray. The petition is dated this month, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Blais: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a fresh point of order based upon the additional petition which has just been presented. The point is that every time there is a new petition it strengthens the argument I have been making. It is a predetermined tactic.

• (1720)

Mr. Bob Ogle (Saskatoon East): Mr. Speaker, I have a petition from citizens of Langham, Asquith, Vandura and the City of Saskatoon, from Saskatoon east, and particularly from Saskatoon west. The undersigned residents of Canada exercise their right to present a grievance. It 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, 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, which means they wish no change in the Crow rate.

Wherefore, the undersigned, your petitioners, humbly pray and call upon Parliament to maintain the present statutory grain Crow rate and, as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

Mr. Blais: A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Member for Selkirk-Interlake (Mr. Sargeant).

Mr. Blais: A point of order, Mr. Speaker. Point of order.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I have recognized the Minister of Supply and Services (Mr. Blais) five times on the same point of order. It is not the intention of the Chair to recognize him again.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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

Some Hon. Members: Out! Out!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Minister of Supply and Services.

Mr. Blais: Mr. Speaker, with all due respect, Sir, the question is that I have risen after the petitions have been brought to your attention. The petitions are being brought to your attention on a repetitive basis. They are coming forward basically as the same petition signed by—allegedly signed by—different people.

All I am saying, Mr. Speaker, is that I want you to recognize me so that I can put to you the point of order relating to the abuse of the process which is being employed by the New Democratic Party in order to frustrate the workings of this House. I maintain, Mr. Speaker, that with each one of those petitions, there is additional evidence of the predetermined intent of the NDP to interfere with the due process of this House and the deliberations of this House.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Member for Selkirk-Interlake.

Mr. Orlikow: A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Before recognizing the Hon. Member for Winnipeg North (Mr. Orlikow), the Chair is appealing to the House at this point. The alleged points of order are not really points of order—

Mr. Smith: They are more legitimate than those petitions.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Chair at this stage is doing its best to enforce the Standing Orders of the House of Commons. If Hon. Members have legitimate points of order, that is one