

Petitions

there are not two but thirty-eight petitions here, even from Quebecers—

Humbly sheweth that

Whereas Western Canadian farmers paid \$131 million to move export grain under the Crow freight rate in the 1981-1982 crop year.

That this grain in turn contributed \$6.3 billion to Canada balance of trade.

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

And whereas Western Canadian farmers will not pay more than one times Crow.

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

And as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

As I mentioned before, the petition was signed by more than thirty-eight people.

[English]

Mr. Vic Althouse (Humboldt-Lake Centre): Madam Speaker, I have a petition from residents of the Vegreville area in Alberta who exercise their right to present a grievance and 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 and higher by 1990, that such increases are being imposed at a time when prices for producers' grains are now at 1974 levels and that detailed calculations show that a rate of 5.1 times the Crow rate will cost the community of Vegreville \$1,489,500 in payments for grain freight that would have otherwise stayed in that community, based on the actual deliveries that took place 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 statute.

Mr. Doug Anguish (The Battlefords-Meadow Lake): Madam Speaker, I have another petition signed by the residents of the Shaunavon-Gull Lake area, almost all of whom are Members of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool. They call upon this Parliament assembled and now exercise their right to present a grievance and humbly sheweth that western Canadian farmers paid \$131 million to move export grain under the Crow rate in 1981-82 crop year. This grain, in turn, contributed \$6.3 billion to the balance of trade and the undersigned believe that this is the farmers' fair contribution to the Canadian economy and that the western farmers will pay one times Crow, which is no change.

● (1520)

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 and forever pray.

Mr. Bob Ogle (Saskatoon East): Madam Speaker, I have a petition from the citizens of Saskatoon to the Honourable the House of Commons in Parliament assembled. The petition of the undersigned residents of Canada now exercise their right to present a grievance. Mr. Justice Emmett Hall and his commission carefully studied the railroad situation in western Canada and indicated that the western Canadian economy is based on statutory grain rates, commonly known as the Crow rate.

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 and forever pray.

MR. BENJAMIN—RAIL SERVICE TO NORTHERN ONTARIO

Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina West): Madam Speaker, I have a different petition. It is to the Honourable the House of Commons of Canada in Parliament assembled. The petition of the undersigned residents of Canada who now exercise their right to present a grievance humbly sheweth that people in northern Ontario sometimes have to wait in unheated shelters in the wintertime for trains that are as much as four hours late.

Wherefore the undersigned, your petitioners, humbly pray and call upon Parliament to urge the Government of Canada to provide a modern and adequate rail service for which your petitioners will ever and forever humbly pray.

MR. MANLY—RETENTION OF CROWNEST PASS RATE

Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan-Malahat-The Islands): Madam Speaker, I have the honour and duty to present a petition from residents of several small towns in Saskatchewan, most of them farmers, many of them Wheat Pool members, to the Honourable the House of Commons in Parliament assembled. The undersigned residents of Canada who now exercise their right to present a grievance humbly sheweth that western Canadian farmers paid \$131 million to move export grain under the Crow freight rate in the 1981-82 crop year; that this grain, in turn, contributed \$6.3 billion to the balance of trade; that the undersigned believe this is the farmers' fair contribution to the Canadian economy, and that western farmers will pay one times the Crow rate, that is no change.

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. HOVDEBO—ACCESSIBILITY OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Stan J. Hovdebo (Prince Albert): Madam Speaker, it is my honour and duty to present to the House of Commons in Parliament assembled a petition of the undersigned residents of the Province of Ontario, who now exercise the right to