

ver area now avail themselves of their ancient and undoubted right to present a grievance common to your petitioners in the certain assurance that your honourable House will therefor provide a remedy. The undersigned say that whereas there is a crisis of confidence in Canada, there must be a remedy immediately, and therefore we, the undersigned, your petitioners, humbly pray and call upon Parliament to take whatever action may be necessary to restore confidence in the Government of Canada, as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

RETENTION OF CROWSNEST PASS RATES

Mr. Vic Althouse (Humboldt-Lake Centre): Mr. Speaker, I have a petition to present to the honourable House of Commons in Parliament assembled. The petition of the undersigned residents of Meacham, Colonsay and Viscount in 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 1981-82. 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 western farmers will pay one times Crow. Wherefore the undersigned, your petitioners, humbly pray and call upon Parliament to maintain the present statutory grain rate.

Mr. Stan J. Hovdebo (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present a petition to the honourable House of Commons of Canada in Parliament assembled. The petition of the undersigned residents of the Province of Saskatchewan, who now exercise their right to present a grievance, humbly sheweth that the removal of the Crow rate will see its replacement by an imposition that will set grain freight charges five times Crow rate or higher by 1990; that such increases are being imposed at a time when grain prices for producers are at the 1974 level; and that detailed calculations show that the rate of five times Crow will cost the community of Weldon \$471,800,000 because of higher rates, these figures being based on the actual deliveries in 1980-81—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): Order, please. I think the Hon. Member is aware that under the rules of the House, the description must be of the briefest nature possible.

Mr. Hovdebo: Wherefore the undersigned your petitioners humbly pray and call upon Parliament to maintain the Crow rate in perpetuity as presently guaranteed by statute and, as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

MR. COOPER—CALL FOR GENERAL ELECTION

Mr. Albert Cooper (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I too have a petition from the people of the Hines Creek, Spirit River, Worsley and Wanham areas of Alberta who believe that there is a crisis of confidence in the Government of Canada and believe that that can only be solved by a federal general election. Therefore, we the undersigned petitioners humbly

Petitions

pray and call upon Parliament to take whatever action may be necessary to restore confidence in the Government of Canada and, as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

MR. NICKERSON—IMPACT OF LEGISLATION ON PLACER MINERS IN YUKON

Mr. Dave Nickerson (Western Arctic): Mr. Speaker, I too present a petition addressed to the honourable House of Commons of Canada in Parliament assembled. This petition is signed by a number of residents of Canada, primarily residents of Yukon, who avail themselves of the ancient right to submit a petition to the House. They state that the survival of Yukon placers miners is threatened by unfair changes in legislation and regulations proposed by the federal Government Departments. They believe that such changes in the legislation and regulations as those proposed by the federal Government would lead to the destruction of the placer mining industry. Therefore, Sir, the undersigned, your petitioners, humbly pray and call upon Parliament not to enact any proposed legislation that would further threaten the security of employment in Yukon at a time when the staggering and unprecedented level of unemployment in Yukon threatens the quality of life in northern communities.

I feel obliged, Sir, to point out that one of the signatories to this petition gives as his address Anchorage, Alaska. I believe that this gentleman is a Canadian citizen, but I do hope that his signature on this petition will not invalidate the petition the petition which has been signed by so many other genuine residents of Canada.

[Translation]

MR. NYSTROM—RETENTION OF CROWSNEST PASS RATES

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. I am sorry, I should have said Mr. Speaker. This is difficult.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): I do not agree.

Mr. Nystrom: If someone is to blame, Mr. Speaker, it is the Hon. Member for Regina West (Mr. Benjamin).

I also have the honour to present a petition signed by the residents of many towns in Saskatchewan, namely Herbert, Saskatoon, Rush Lake and other communities such as Morse, all of them residents of Canada who now exercise their ancient and undoubted right to present a grievance common to your petitioners, in the certain assurance that your honourable House will therefor provide a remedy.

They humbly sheweth that:

Whereas Western Canadian farmers paid \$131 million for grain in 1981-82 under the Crow rate, whereas this in turn contributed \$6.3 billion to the balance of trade of Canada; whereas the undersigned believe that this represents an equitable contribution to the Canadian economy and that Western