

Petitions

Mr. Shields: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I would like your direction on this matter because I am not as familiar with the rules and the etiquette of the House as are many of the people who have been in the House for years. I seek your direction and perhaps your advice on a matter that arose when I spoke. While I was reading a petition, the Hon. Member for Yukon (Mr. Nielsen) said: "I spy a stranger in the House". I think, Mr. Speaker, that he was referring to me because I have recently come back from a trip.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: With all due respect, I am sure the Hon. Member for Yukon (Mr. Nielsen) is reverting to a time-honoured formula of the House, and the Chair noted that and looked around. I am sure such a formula is never used with reference to Members duly elected to the House of Commons.

CALL FOR GENERAL ELECTION

Mr. Doug Neil (Moose Jaw): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour and privilege to present a petition signed by Canadian citizens from Campbell River, Surrey, West Vancouver, North Vancouver and Vancouver proper. It is addressed to the honourable House of Commons of Canada in Parliament assembled. The petition of the undersigned citizens of the Dominion of Canada, who 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 therefore provide a remedy, humbly sheweth that there exists a crisis of confidence in the Government of Canada, that this must be remedied as quickly as possible and that this might best be done by calling a general federal election immediately. 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. And, as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray. The petition is dated October 27, 1983.

Mr. Girve Fretz (Erie): Mr. Speaker, I have a petition from residents of British Columbia and, as citizens of the Dominion of Canada, they 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 therefore provide a suitable remedy. They believe, Mr. Speaker, that there exists a lack of confidence in the Government of Canada today and that the only way to remedy this would be to call an election. Therefore, the undersigned petitioners humbly 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. Arnold Malone (Crowfoot): Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege and duty to present a petition on behalf of some very fine and thoughtful citizens from the communities of West Vancouver, North Vancouver and Surrey and from many citizens of the good community of Valleyview in the Province of Alberta. To the honourable House of Commons of Canada in Parliament assembled, the petition of the undersigned citi-

zens of the Dominion of Canada, who 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 therefore provide a remedy, humbly sheweth that there exists a crisis of confidence in the Government of Canada, that this must be remedied as quickly as possible and that this might best be done by calling a general federal election immediately. Therefore, we the undersigned, your petitioners, humbly pray and call upon Parliament to take whatever action may be necessary to restore the confidence in the Government of Canada. And, as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray.

MR. HOVDEBO—RETENTION OF CROWSNEST PASS RATES

Mr. Stan J. Hovdebo (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, I am sure the House would be interested to know that farmers have occupied the Department of Transport offices in Winnipeg, Edmonton and Regina this afternoon. To the honourable, House of Commons—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: With all due respect to the Hon. Member, he should confine his remarks strictly to the presentation of his petition.

Mr. Hovdebo: 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 Crow rate is an important benefit to western Canada and one of the earliest incentives granted to settlers and that changing of the Crow rate will reduce farm incomes, contribute to the breaking up of communities on branch lines and increase trucking and road costs, and that three Royal Commissions have recommended retention of the Crow rate. Therefore, 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. SHIELDS—IMPACT OF LEGISLATION ON PLACER MINERS IN YUKON

Mr. Jack Shields (Athabasca): Mr. Speaker, I have a petition which was circulated in the placer mining capital of the world, Dawson City, where the largest placer mining operations in the country have taken place. Because of the potential destruction of the placer mining industry, petitions were circulated in Dawson city and I would like to put on the record what the petitioners asked for. The letter stated that the Yukon Placer Mine Survival Committee is seeking the support of all northerners in their fight for survival against unfair changes in legislation and regulations proposed by federal Government Departments which would lead to the destruction of the industry. It goes on, "If you feel you could help us, please add your address and phone number." The petition was circulated in Dawson City.