

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, November 23, 1976

The House met at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS

REQUEST THAT PRIME MINISTER MAKE STATEMENT IN HOUSE ON QUEBEC SITUATION—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Joe Clark (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity under the terms of Standing Order 43. In view of the necessity that parliament remain as the centre of political debate in Canada, particularly when questions concerning the future of confederation are at issue, I ask leave of the House to move, seconded by the hon. member for Halifax (Mr. Stanfield):

That this House categorically affirms its right to debate matters of national importance, and therefore urges the Prime Minister to make a statement on motions respecting his government's views on the Quebec provincial election before appearing on national television to do so.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Such a motion pursuant to Standing Order 43 can be presented to the House only with its unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

* * *

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

FAILURE TO IMPLEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS OF AUDITOR GENERAL AND APPOINTMENT OF ROYAL COMMISSION—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, I regret that Liberal members said no to that very sensible and desirable motion which was moved by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Clark). I move, seconded by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles):

That this House condemns the government for insulting the Auditor General of Canada by refusing to accept his principal recommendation for the immediate establishment of a Comptroller General who would report directly to a cabinet minister and thus reinforce the principle of ministerial responsibility for financial administration; and further, for establishing a totally unnecessary royal commission to look into government financial management, which would not report back until after the next election.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Such a motion can be presented to the House only with its unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

* * *

[Translation]

SOCIAL SECURITY

SUGGESTED ELIGIBILITY FOR PENSIONS AT AGE 60—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, I rise pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 43 to ask for the unanimous consent of the House to move a motion on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity.

In view of the large number of jobless young people, most of them holders of a diploma which qualifies them on the labour market, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Roberval (Mr. Gauthier):

That this House call upon the government immediately to introduce legislation to lower the optional retirement age to 60 years to give job opportunities to young people and to make any applicant aged 60 who would apply for old age security pension eligible for benefits.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The House has heard the motion of the hon. member. Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 43, this motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Yes.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There not being unanimous consent, this motion may not be put.

* * *

[English]

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

REQUEST FOR REVERSAL OF INSTRUCTIONS THAT NO FISH BE CARRIED ON CERTAIN BRANCH LINES IN MANITOBA—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Cecil Smith (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing importance to the freshwater fishermen of northern Manitoba. In view of the fact that the Canadian National Railways have issued instructions to the effect that no more fresh fish is to be picked up from commercial fishermen who bring their fish to stations on the "Bay" line, the Lynn Lake line and the Chisel Lake line, and further in view of the fact that the CNR is the only means of transportation in these