

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, February 22, 1979

The House met at 2 p.m.

● (1405)

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

STATUS OF WOMEN

ALLEGED FAILURE OF GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR WOMEN IN PUBLIC SERVICE—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, in view of the recently published report of the Advisory Council on the Status of Women, entitled "Women in the Public Service—Barriers to Equal Opportunity", and its total indictment of federal policies and programs to achieve equal opportunity for women, indicating in particular that "the federal government has failed to provide equal opportunity for women in the public service", and they are actually lagging behind the private sector and, in particular, that there is a disturbing reversal in the career assignment program with a reduction from the 30 per cent participation rate for women in 1975 to a 14 per cent participation rate in 1977, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Kingston and the Islands (Miss MacDonald):

That this government immediately report on, (1) the specific goals that have been in effect since 1975 in respect of the achievement of equal opportunity, department by department; (2) those departments or agencies which have failed to meet their particular objective on a year by year basis; and (3) the annual assessment provided to Treasury Board on the implementation of equal opportunity programs for women in the various departments and agencies.

Mr. Speaker: The introduction of such a motion for debate at this time can only be done with the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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[Translation]

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

REQUEST THAT MORE EFFICIENT MEASURES BE TAKEN TO PROMOTE BILINGUALISM—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I should like to move a motion under Standing Order 43.

Considering that the Commissioner of Official Languages has stated that the government should clean its own house before acting as protector of linguistic equality; considering, again according to the commissioner, that the working language in the public service is spoken mainly among lower ranks; and finally, considering that in the commissioner's opinion it is frightening that the government has chosen this moment to reduce by \$34 million the budget to promote bilingualism in the provinces, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Brome-Missisquoi (Mr. Grafftey):

That the House unanimously urge the Prime Minister of Canada to refrain from deluding Canadians with his fine speeches and, as the commissioner says, to take action.

Mr. Speaker: Order. Pursuant to Standing Order 43, such motion can be presented only with unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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[English]

TRANSPORT

PROPOSED SHERBROOK-McGREGOR OVERPASS IN WINNIPEG—REQUEST FOR DELAY UNTIL STUDY OF RAILWAY RELOCATION UNDERTAKEN—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, the contents of this motion represent views expressed by the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and by the Minister of Transport (Mr. Lang) and I hope, therefore, that the House will give consent to its being presented at this time.

I move, seconded by the hon. member for Yorkton-Melville (Mr. Nystrom):

That this House notes that the building of a proposed Sherbrook-McGregor overpass in Winnipeg would seriously disturb residents both north and south of the Canadian Pacific Railway yards, and therefore urges the federal government not to support the building of the said overpass at this time, but to delay any decision thereon until there has been a full and thorough study of railway relocation at Winnipeg, and this House urges the government to commit the necessary funds for such a study so that it can proceed forthwith.

Mr. Speaker: Such a motion can be introduced at this time only with unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.