

*Communications Spire, Toronto***UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE****AMENDMENT RESPECTING SUGAR BUSH WORKERS—
REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION**

Mr. Henry Latulippe (Compton): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 43, I ask for adjournment of the House in order to deal with a matter which I consider to be of urgent and pressing necessity, namely unemployment insurance benefits.

During the maple sugar season, owners of maple sugar groves find it difficult to hire supplementary labour because those who are unemployed do not want to lose their benefits. Could the House examine the possibility of amending the Unemployment Insurance Act in such a manner that those now receiving benefits are enable to work during the maple sugar season without loss of benefits?

Mr. Speaker: I take the liberty of pointing out to the hon. member for Compton (Mr. Latulippe) that a motion for adjournment of the House should normally be presented under the provisions of Standing Order 26, rather than Standing Order 43. At any rate, I shall ask the House whether there is unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent to the motion brought forward by the hon. member for Compton.

• (1110)

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is no unanimity and the motion therefore cannot be put.

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[English]

URBAN AFFAIRS**CONSTRUCTION OF COMMUNICATIONS SPIRE IN
PROPOSED METRO TORONTO CENTRE—REQUEST FOR
UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION**

Mr. John Harney (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity pursuant to Standing Order 43. In view of the fact that the citizens of Toronto are just now beginning to react to the construction of the Canadian National communications tower and the implications it has for development in the metropolitan Toronto harbour area, in view of the fact that the development agreements between the developers, Canadian National and Canadian Pacific, and the City of Toronto with regard to the entire Metro Centre project have not been completed, and also in view of the fact this needle may be used as a lever to rush the finalization of these agreements relating to what will be, after all, one of the major developments on the continent, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby (Mr. Broadbent):

That this House instruct the Minister of Transport to order the CN Tower Company to postpone the beginning of the construction of the CN tower so that further consideration can be given to the

[Mr. Speaker.]

tower aspect of this Metro Centre project by the council and citizens of the city of Toronto.

Mr. Speaker: Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: The motion cannot be put.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD**THE CANADIAN ECONOMY****COST OF LIVING INCREASE—ACTION TO EXERT
CONTROL**

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance. In light of the information released today by Statistics Canada showing an increase of 5.7 per cent in the consumer price index between January of 1972 and January of 1973, can the minister tell the House what action he proposes to take to bring the increase in the cost of living under control?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, the rise in the cost of living continues to cause me and everybody in the House concern. It is primarily induced by a sharp rise again in food prices which I think adds urgency to the task of the House committee investigating food prices.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): As I have said before in the House, the increase in food prices is primarily attributable to a world shortage of many staples which is affecting Canada as well. It is primarily a supply problem which was complicated in this country by the adverse weather that destroyed a good many of the vegetable and cash crops in Ontario and Quebec.

Mr. Stanfield: I am sure the minister will agree that it is not altogether a question of food prices. But since food prices have obviously increased much more than the minister expected last May when he brought down his budget and said, "we do not expect food prices will rise as fast this year as last", whereas they have in fact risen substantially faster than in 1971, does the minister intend to take any action with regard to food prices other than just leaving the matter in the lap of the special committee?

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and I are looking at ways to see what we can do to increase the supply of food. As for what I said last May, the hon. gentleman may be armed with a little hindsight but the forecast that I made last May could not, of course, have taken into account the shortages that developed on a world basis in grain as well as the demand that developed for meat. Nor could I in any way predict, and I do not