HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, July 14, 1980

The House met at 2 p.m.

● (1405)

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

NARCOTICS

PROSECUTIONS, CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCES FOR TRAFFICKING IN HEROIN—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Girve Fretz (Erie): Madam Speaker, I rise, under the provisions of Standing Order 43, on a motion of urgent and pressing necessity.

Given the fact that Canadian chiefs of police are concerned about leniency in sentencing for drug offences, a perception borne out by statistics which showed that in 1978 there were 201 convictions for trafficking or for purposes of trafficking in heroin, yet only 18 of those convicted received sentences of over five years and only three received sentences of over ten years; five years earlier, however—in 1973—there were 524 similar convictions for heroin and that year 211 of those convicted were sentenced to terms of over five years, 61 of which were over ten years and seven were given a life sentence, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Esquimalt-Saanich (Mr. Munro):

That this House urge the Minister of Justice to make a full report to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs on the prosecutions, convictions and sentencing for trafficking or possession for the purposes of trafficking in heroin, and the advisability of greater minimum sentences for such offences.

Madam Speaker: This motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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NORTHERN PIPELINES

ALASKA GAS PIPELINE—EXPORTS OF NATURAL GAS TO UNITED STATES—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River): Madam Speaker, I rise, under the provisions of Standing Order 43, to present the following urgent and pressing public matter.

Whereas Senator Bud Olson, the Prime Minister's appointed Minister of State for Economic Development, three times rejected by Alberta voters, has failed miserably to persuade the Liberal cabinet to proceed under present legislation with his proposal for the construction of the pre-build section of the Alaska Highway natural gas pipeline, and whereas Senator Olson, hurt by the indecision of the cabinet, is wiggling, fumbling and bumbling in an attempt to erect a smoke-screen to protect the Liberal dictatorship, and whereas the Progressive Conservative members en masse are, and always have been, willing and ready to assist in this endeavour through proper reference to the House of Commons, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Western Arctic (Mr. Nickerson):

That this House challenge Senator Bud Olson to either get our surplus of natural gas moving to the United States market, or resign from his position and give the people the real reasons why progress is being delayed.

Madam Speaker: Such a motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

ALASKA GAS PIPELINE—CONSTRUCTION THEREOF—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. F. Oberle (Prince George-Peace River): Madam Speaker, my motion under Standing Order 43 is in response to a desperate appeal to the opposition for help over the weekend by pipeline minister and Senator Bud Olson, who says he is prepared to give formal approval for commencement of construction of the western leg of the Alaska highway gas pipeline, but finds his colleagues in cabinet reluctant to acquiesce for the reason that a decision in favour of commencement at this time could produce the mistaken impression in western Canada that the government is softening its approach to the west, and that a discovery of the real facts relating to the pipeline has been made and taken into account.

I move, therefore, seconded by the hon. member for Bow River (Mr. Taylor):

That the House instruct the hon. senator to render his decision respecting the Alaska highway gas pipeline in accordance with instructions and advice offered to him by the Leader of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition.

Madam Speaker: Such a motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.