

## S. O. 52

## COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

**Mr. Derek Lee (Scarborough—Rouge River):** Mr. Speaker, I have a petition signed by 106 signatories from east metropolitan Toronto, Markham and Durham region.

The petitioners take note of the disproportionate impact of new tax increases and inflation on low wage earners and call upon the government to reject the imposition of a wage freeze on the public sector and reaffirm support for free collective bargaining for all Canadian workers.

**Mr. Speaker:** Questions on the order paper.

**An hon. member:** No.

**Mr. Speaker:** Before getting to Government Orders, I have several applications for emergency debates. I will deal with them in order.

**An hon. member:** What about Questions on the Order Paper?

**Mr. Speaker:** The response indicated that there were no Questions on the Order Paper today.

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• (1610)

## MOTION TO ADJOURN UNDER S. O. 52

## FISHERIES

**Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena):** Mr. Speaker, the situation in Dixon Entrance is now such that there is a real potential for a life threatening incident. Canadian fishing vessels are being boarded by armed U.S. military personnel inside Canada. The vessels are being seized, on-board cargo stolen, Canadian crews are being threatened, assaulted, kidnapped and jailed and ransom payments are being demanded without trial.

This is not a matter that can be dealt with during any of the regular proceedings, as we learned during Question Period today. It is a genuine emergency because a Canadian vessel could be seized at any moment and a growing number of Canadian skippers have expressed the view that their vessels will not be boarded inside Canada by any U.S. authorities. Firearms are present and visible now on Canadian vessels and as I can personally attest, they are visible, present and shown by the U.S. military vessels marauding along the A-B line.

This situation in terms of the vessels that were seized and boarded during July and August has not been dealt with by any of the ministers or any of the departments in

Canada. There have been no charges proceeded with or laid against the U.S. authorities for coming inside Canada and committing violations both found within the Criminal Code and that are contrary to international law. Even the *Lewis Reef*, a Canadian enforcement vessel, that approached the U.S. Coast Guard *Liberty* when it had the *Eliza Joye* in custody was refused the right to board the vessel.

## SPEAKER'S RULING

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member has raised a matter of some importance. I also have to caution the hon. member that it is not appropriate to get into debate. I think I have the facts thoroughly and fully in front of me. It is a very serious matter. I think that all hon. members would consider that it is.

I do not think that it is appropriate at this time to proceed with an emergency debate, to adjourn the business of the House for an emergency debate today. Of course, we will follow with interest the situation.

## STEEL INDUSTRY

**Mr. Steve Butland (Sault Ste. Marie):** Mr. Speaker, I too rise requesting an emergency debate as to the steel industry in this country.

The Canadian steel industry is under unprecedented crisis. Since 1987 imported Canadian steel has fallen to 3 per cent of the American steel market, an all-time low, while American imports into Canada have risen from 2.5 per cent to 17 per cent, an all-time high.

Observers attribute this change in the balance of trade to the relatively high Canadian dollar and the political lobbying of American steel producers. Canadian steel producers and their families are suffering. Unless immediate action is taken to reverse this trend, the situation will become totally untenable.

I suggest a debate is urgently required to convince the government to lower the dollar and provide protection against the flood of steel imports, which has risen above 25 per cent. Unless immediate appropriate actions are taken, there is the possibility that there will be no steel industry in this country.

## SPEAKER'S RULING

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member of course has given the appropriate notice for the application. This is not the first time that the matter has been raised in the House. I would ask the hon. member to continue raising it and discussing the matter with others in the Chamber.