INDUSTRY

SUGGESTED CONTINUATION OF SUBSIDY TO SHIPBUILDING— REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Raynald Guay (Lévis): Mr. Speaker, under Standing Order 43, I request unanimous consent of the House to discuss an urgent matter.

Considering that STAP—the shipbuilding temporary assistance program—will expire on March 31, 1975, that is in a few days, in view of the uncertainty of the future of this program, uncertainty that naturally affects our Canadian shipyards, and the minister's awareness of the efficiency of the program in maintaining a high level of employment in our shipyards, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Richelieu (Mr. Côté):

That the minister make a statement on motions indicating the intentions of his department with regard to STAP and, should the department intend to drop the program, that the minister advise us what measures are planned to replace it with comparable results.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The House has heard the motion of the hon. member. Under Standing Order 43, it requires unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Yes.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: As there is not unanimous consent, the motion cannot be put.

[English]

An hon. Member: Reid said no.

Mr. Broadbent: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I hope the record will show that a member of the Liberal Party said no to that request.

• (1420)

REPRESENTATION COMMISSIONER ACT

AMENDMENT ELIMINATING PROVISION FOR ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS BY COMMISSIONER RESPECTING ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES

Mr. John M. Reid (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-381, to amend the Representation Commissioner Act.

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Speaker, this amendment is consequential on results of Bill C-370, a private members' bill standing in my name which today will receive royal assent. As a result of that bill passing, there are some consequential amendments which are deemed to be advisable to the Representation Commissioner Act that are contained in this bill.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

Oral Questions

ORAL OUESTION PERIOD

[English]

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

SCOPE OF INVESTIGATION INTO DREDGING CONTRACTS— POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT OF OTHER AGENCIES

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Solicitor General involving the massive probe by the RCMP and other federal agencies regarding the \$21 million contract for the St. Lawrence. Can the minister indicate to the House the scope of the investigation being conducted at the present time into federal dredging contracts? Also, are there any other federal agencies involved and is the investigation virtually completed?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): All I can say, Mr. Speaker, is that the investigation is still underway. There are other federal departments involved. I have been given no information to the effect that the police are ready to lay charges at this time.

Mr. Alexander: Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question to be followed by a further supplementary, since the minister has indicated there are other federal agencies involved besides the RCMP. Is the minister in a position to now disclose which other agencies these may be?

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, to be certain, I better check on that. I will report to the House, possibly later in the question period.

REASON FOR WITHHOLDING PAYMENT TO CERTAIN MONTREAL COMPANIES FOR DREDGING ST. LAWRENCE RIVER

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Is the minister in a position to report back to the House on a question asked him yesterday concerning the \$1.5 million final payment for the St. Lawrence dredging contract? He was asked if the payment was held up because the government was waiting for the disposition of court proceedings in Hamilton? Can the minister answer this question today? Is there a relationship between the two?

Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I put that question to the RCMP immediately after the question period yesterday. I have not yet received a reply. All these answers are not in Ottawa. It is necessary to check with people in the field.

HARBOURS

HAMILTON HARBOUR COMMISSION—POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT OF MINISTER OF LABOUR IN REMOVAL OF MR. LANZA AS COMMISSIONER

Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Transport. In view of the recent statement by the Minister of Labour regarding the integrity of Del Hickey and Joe Lanza of the Hamilton Harbour Commission, can the minister indicate whether it is true the Minister of Labour