

Oral Questions

the Minister of Labour right now is in negotiations with the SIU. I would prefer at this stage, in the interests of the Canadian government, not to make any comment on the matter.

Mr. Speaker: The Chair will recognize the hon. member on a supplementary followed by the hon. member for Meadow Lake and the hon. member for Esquimalt-Saanich, after which we will call orders of the day.

Mr. Morgan: I direct my question again to the Minister of Transport. My question was really aimed at the elimination of tolls, lockage and dockage fees throughout the St. Lawrence Seaway system. Will the minister take under active consideration their elimination?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Mr. Speaker, I assume that the hon. gentleman knows that this is part of the law and that normally the seaway is supposed to finance itself. It has never happened in the past, but this is part of the law. It is not an easy question to answer at this time.

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

ETHIOPIA—GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO ALLEVIATE EFFECTS OF FAMINE

Mr. Elias Nesdoly (Meadow Lake): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address my question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs. In view of both personal and newspaper reports from Ethiopia that there is famine and widespread starvation there is the minister's department considering some emergency relief to the stricken areas in that country?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the government of Canada, as I have indicated a number of times in response to questions in the House, is already engaged in a massive effort to help the situation in Ethiopia.

LAOS—REASON FOR SEEKING ADJOURNMENT SINE DIE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SUPERVISION AND CONTROL

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, my question is also addressed to the Secretary of State for External Affairs and it concerns the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos. Is the minister prepared to tell the House what prompted the government to announce recently its decision to seek an adjournment *sine die* of the commission. Is it that matters have improved so much there, is it because of frustration, or is it because the commission is no longer effective?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the reason is the final one mentioned by the hon. member, namely, that the commission is not effective, and our concern that we might be asked to take on responsibilities under the new agreement that has been signed in Laos, an agreement which we do not think attracts the obligations that we have under the existing agreement.

[Mr. Marchand (Langelier).]

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the Chair might be allowed to recognize the hon. member for Vancouver Quadra before calling orders of the day and the matter raised by the hon. member for Esquimalt-Saanich might be pursued further during the next question period.

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[Translation]

HARBOURS

PORT OF VANCOUVER—INTENTION OF GOVERNMENT RESPECTING DEVELOPMENTS

Mr. Bill Clarke (Vancouver Quadra): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask a question of the hon. Minister of Transport.

Is it his intention to allow the proposed developments for the port of Vancouver to start immediately, or will this have to wait for the submission of the conclusions of the joint study made by the federal and municipal governments?

[English]

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I am sorry, I did not get the question exactly. I thank the hon. gentleman and I regret that I was not listening to the first part. Perhaps he would like to repeat the question.

[Translation]

Mr. Clarke (Vancouver Quadra): Mr. Speaker, does the hon. minister intend to allow the proposed developments for the port of Vancouver to start or will they have to wait until the federal and municipal joint studies are completed?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): I do not think so, Mr. Speaker. This is connected to the study we are making jointly with the province and the city of Vancouver.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[Translation]

WAYS AND MEANS

EXPORT OF OIL FROM CANADA

Hon. Jean-Eudes Dubé (for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources) moved:

That a ways and means motion with respect to export of oil from Canada, notice of which was laid upon the Table, Thursday, March 28, 1974, be concurred in.

Motion agreed to.

[English]

Mr. Speaker: Is there a suggestion that there is to be a debate on this motion? I would remind hon. members that there is no debate or amendment permissible under Standing Order 60(10). That is why the motion was simply put, and I assume it is carried. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?