HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, March 8, 1978

The House met at 2 p.m.

• (1407)

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

STATUS OF WOMEN

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN IN PUBLIC SERVICE— MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, in light of recent representations made through my office on behalf of the more than 100,000 women who are employed in the public service with regard to their concern over the "job ghetto", which has increased from 68.2 per cent in 1972 to 78.8 per cent, they continue to work in-in spite of the minister's assurance that "the government has taken steps... to try to improve opportunities for women in the public service"—and in light of the fact that of all the women in the public service, over 33,000 or about one-third, earned less than \$10,000, in comparison with less than 10 per cent of the men, and that the Advisory Council on the Status of Women stated in its most recent annual report with regard to the appointment of women, "this inaction calls into question the government's commitment to equal opportunity for women in Canada", I move, seconded by the hon, member for Kingston and the Islands (Miss MacDonald):

That Treasury Board and the Public Service Commission immediately review each department's five-year plan of action to ensure no further erosion of the advancement of women, to upgrade the salaries and responsibilities of women in the public service and to report back to the House on a new plan of action within 30 days.

Mr. Speaker: Presentation of such a motion, pursuant to Standing Order 43, requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

GOVERNMENT URGED TO ACT ON RECOMMENDATIONS OF ADVISORY COUNCIL—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise to present a motion under the provisions of Standing Order 43. It is one with which I am sure all hon. members will agree. I hope they will permit it to be passed. I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas):

That this House takes note of the fact that this is International Women's Day and calls on the government to act forthwith on the recommendations made recently by the Advisory Council on the Status of Women, particularly in terms of employment, training for skilled occupations, appointments to management positions, and pension equality, and this House expresses the hope that in the next parliament the number of women members will be substantially increased.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to Standing Order 43, presentation of such a motion for debate requires unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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• (1412)

[Translation]

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

QUEBEC—COMPENSATION FOR DAMAGE CAUSED TO AQUATIC FAUNA—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, under the provisions of Standing Order 43, I ask for the unanimous consent of the House to move an important motion of pressing necessity.

In view of the activities of the Canadian army in Quebec during January 1978; considering that such activities violate the legislation and regulations governing fishing and hunting, the quality of the environment and wildlife conservation; since no permission had been requested to do so, taking into account the considerable damage caused by dynamiting, manoeuvres of tanks and other heavy military equipment; and since these were clearly provocative activities owing to existing tensions between the federal government and the Quebec government, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Bellechasse (Mr. Lambert):

That the federal government officially apologize to the Quebec government for such disorderly and irresponsible activities of a Canadian army force and that all damages incurred be paid.

Mr. Speaker: Order. Under the provisions of Standing Order 43, the presentation of such a motion for debate requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there such consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.