

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, February 3, 1978

The House met at 11 a.m.

● (1107)

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

GOVERNMENT COMMITMENT TO RECOMMENDATIONS OF IJC— MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Dean Whiteway (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. In view of the growing urgency surrounding the Garrison diversion project and its effect upon Manitoba's lakes and rivers, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre (Mr. McKenzie):

That this House direct the Prime Minister to send a diplomatic note immediately to the U.S. government stating Canada's firm commitment to the recommendations of the IJC that guarantee no environmental harm to Canada, and that the Secretary of State for External Affairs refer both the International Joint Commission report on Garrison and the "Andrus plan" to the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Forestry.

Mr. Speaker: Such a motion can be presented for discussion at this time only with unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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PENSIONS

FAILURE OF GOVERNMENT TO IMPROVE RAILWAYS' PENSION PLANS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgency; therefore, under the provisions of Standing Order 43. I move, seconded by the hon. member for Winnipeg North (Mr. Orlikow):

That this House regrets the failure of the government to take any action to require the Canadian National Railways and the Canadian Pacific Railway to improve their pension plans as recommended by Dr. Noel Hall in his report on Canadian railway pension plans and, further, noting that the pension issue is a major element in the breakdown of labour-management railway contract negotiations, this House calls on the government to insist on immediate increases in the pensions of retired railway workers and the inclusion of an indexing provision in all railway pension plans.

Mr. Speaker: Such a motion can be presented for discussion at this time only with the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

AUTHORIZATION FOR OPENING OF MAIL—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. I move, seconded by the hon. member for Capilano (Mr. Huntington):

That any legislation brought forward by this government in reference to granting authority to police officers to open mail require that authorization be sought and granted by a judge of the superior court of a province and that such authorization only be granted if an affidavit by the applicant states that such police officers have reasonable grounds to believe the security of the nation is threatened or a serious crime is involved.

Mr. Speaker: Such a motion can be presented for discussion only with unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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[Translation]

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

REQUEST THAT EX-MINISTER BE AUTHORIZED TO ANSWER QUESTIONS ON RCMP—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

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

Since the Prime Minister has decided to accept the resignation of the hon. member for Argenteuil-Deux-Montagnes (Mr. Fox) as minister of his cabinet; since that minister was directly related in the House to the case of RCMP illegal activities; since that resignation could be interpreted as a means to prevent the minister from answering questions about the part played by the government in that shameful affair involving the RCMP; and since the members of this House are entitled to question the ministers of Her Majesty, I move, seconded by