

should be provided with accommodation so they can properly discharge their duties while the House of Commons is not sitting, or indeed while it is sitting. There are many occasions upon which we have to go to our constituencies to attend to constituency public business. Many of us are at a disadvantage because we have no place from which to operate. We have no place in which to receive our constituents, no place in which to correlate our activities in relation to our responsibilities as members of parliament.

In the general area of accommodation, there is an acute shortage in the city of St. John's. I do not believe anyone will quarrel with that statement. We are experiencing overcrowding in our various government of Canada buildings. Many of our departments are housed in temporary quarters which were acquired as a result of the United States vacating military establishment in St. John's. These temporary accommodations are inadequate to serve the needs and various important functions of the federal government.

I feel it is about time the government of Canada gave serious consideration to the construction of a new public building to house these various departments that are now in temporary quarters. This would alleviate the acute overcrowding that exists in the main public building which is now most inadequate to the needs of the government in my province. There is one other important question which I should like to have answered, because I am a little confused about the relationship between the Department of Public Works and the Department of Fisheries. Many of us who come from the maritime areas are continually made aware of this problem.

For example, we go to the Department of Public Works to request a new, modern facility for a small fishing activity in a particular area. The Department of Public Works will tell us this matter has to be referred to the Department of Fisheries. We go to the Department of Fisheries and we are told by the Department of Fisheries that they cannot justify this expenditure because there is not sufficient fishing activity being conducted in that particular area. It evolves down to the old question, then, of which comes first, the chicken or the egg.

**The Chairman:** Order, please. It being ten o'clock, shall I rise and report progress?

Progress reported.

*Proceedings on Adjournment Motion*

**BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** Mr. Speaker, before we begin the adjournment debate I should like to announce that the business for tomorrow will be as announced last Thursday, namely continuation of the budget debate.

• (10:00 p.m.)

**PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION**

A motion to adjourn the house under provisional standing order 39A deemed to have been moved.

**CONSUMER AFFAIRS—EDMONTON—REPORTED SHORT WEIGHT OF ICE CREAM BARS**

**Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway):** Mr. Speaker, I hold in my hand an Ontario version of an Alberta fudgsicle, a frozen confection on a stick. I have brought it here tonight because there was so much merriment at the word "fudgsicle" the other day I felt sure that a number of members did not know what was meant by the word. I thought I had better give them some general idea.

Actually, Mr. Speaker, the matter is quite serious from the standpoint of the consumer. On July 16 a man in Calgary bought some fudgsicles made by Woodland Dairy Limited of Edmonton. The package advertised that the contents amounted to three fluid ounces. He became suspicious of the weight and volume, made tests, and found that these fudgsicles contained only 2½ fluid ounces. He then became convinced that the public was being cheated one half ounce on each fudgsicle. Not very impressive, I admit, to a lot of members in the House of Commons, but much more so to a mother whose children are continually being given money to buy these things.

This man then took up with the Calgary federal weights and measures office on or about July 17 this matter of the defrauding of the public as a result of this underweight. He wrote to the chief inspector of the Calgary office of weights and measures on July 22, and also wrote the minister in Ottawa two letters dated August 12 and August 19 asking for action to protect the public. On August 28 he was assured by the minister's office that the Calgary office had the matter in hand and would get in touch with the complainant when the report was finalized. In the letter was this sentence:

The dairy products division will work with the dairy to ensure that all future production is up to declared quantity.