HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, October 23, 1975

The House met at 2 p.m.

[Translation]

NEW MEMBER

Mr. Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that the Clerk of the House has received from the Chief Electoral Officer a certificate of the election and return of Jacques Lavoie, Esquire, member for the electoral district of Hochelaga.

NEW MEMBER INTRODUCED

Jacques Lavoie, Esquire, member for the electoral district of Hochelaga, introduced by Mr. Robert L. Stanfield and Mr. Claude Wagner.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

POST OFFICE

SUGGESTION PRESIDENT OF TREASURY BOARD ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR RESUMING NEGOTIATIONS WITH STRIKING WORKERS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

• (1410)

Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of pressing necessity under S.O. 43. Judging from the massive protest that is building up in the country following the closing down of Canada's postal service, it is clear that the resolution of the postal confrontation is essential to the success of the government's restraint program, and in view of the fact that the union officials have publicly stated their desire to resume negotiations across the bargaining table rather than continue the exchange of insults through the media, a viewpoint that was supported by the Postmaster General (Mr. Mackasey) in the House yesterday, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Vancouver Quadra (Mr. Clarke):

That the President of the Treasury Board assume his responsibility in getting the parties back together at the bargaining table so that everybody's face can be saved, the postal workers returned to their jobs and Canadians provided with vitally essential mail service.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Under the provisions of Standing Order 43 this motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

PUBLIC SERVICE

REQUEST FOR DETAILS AND DATES OF APPROVAL OF SALARY INCREASES FOR EXECUTIVE CATEGORY—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity.

In view of the concern expressed by many Canadians that the government's controls program is not fair, and in view of the government's obvious desire to allay that concern, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles):

That this House instructs the Prime Minister to make a statement on Motions outlining in detail the circumstances surrounding recent salary increases for deputy ministers and senior executives in the public service, including the dates on which the Cabinet gave formal approval for these increases, the dates they were signed, the magnitude of the increases and whether they conform with the spirit of the government's guidelines.

Mr. Speaker: Standing Order 43 requires the unanimous consent of the House on this motion. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

[Translation]

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

SUGGESTED RESTRICTION OF IMPORTATION OF BEEF— MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, under the provisions of Standing Order 43, I ask the unanimous consent of the House to discuss a matter of urgent and pressing necessity.

In view of the increasingly serious conditions which are now facing Quebec beef producers as regards ridiculously low prices and marketing problems, due to an excess of that product on the Quebec market and in view of the fact that the federal government tolerates and even promotes massive beef imports especially beef cuts and that on the other hand, the Department of Agriculture allows, as a result of its inaction, ever rising production costs, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Bellechasse (Mr. Lambert):

That the House may now discuss that matter to clear the situation and take immediate concrete steps to improve those shocking conditions which could lead many other producers on the verge of bankruptcy and create a severe shortage of beef followed by a staggering rise in consumer prices before the 80's.