

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, February 9, 1973

The House met at 11 a.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

POWER

POSSIBLE FLOODING OF SKAGIT RIVER VALLEY— REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. John A. Fraser (Vancouver South): Mr. Speaker, under the provisions of Standing Order 43 I ask the unanimous consent of the House to move a motion of urgent and pressing necessity relating to the present heavy expenses being incurred by the citizens' groups preparing their case before the United States Power Commission in opposition to the flooding of the Canadian Skagit Valley by Seattle City Light, which expenses could now be terminated if the government of Canada will confirm the statement of the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp) to CKWX radio newsman Doug Taylor on February 6 that "nobody believes now the Skagit Valley will be flooded". I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for New Westminster (Mr. Leggatt):

That the House direct the Secretary of State for External Affairs to immediately convey to the citizens' groups fighting the flooding that they now have the assurance of the government of Canada that the flooding will not occur and they may therefore safely withdraw from the costly hearings before the U.S. Federal Power Commission.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent. The motion cannot be put.

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THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

COST OF LIVING INCREASE—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, with the unanimous consent of the House, I wish to move a motion under Standing Order 43.

Mr. Bell: They won't say no to this one.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, if I have the floor, may I go on? I wish to move a motion under Standing Order 43 arising out of the disastrous rise in the cost of living, particularly the rise in the cost of food. With the unanimous consent of the House I wish to move, seconded by the member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles):

That this House urges the government to introduce without delay its legislation to increase the amount of old age pensions and also its legislation to implement the guaranteed income proposals set out in the Speech from the Throne, to enable Canadians to cope with the crippling rise in the cost of living, particularly in the price of food.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Is the hon. member rising on a point of order?

[Translation]

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to bring to the attention of the House that 105 students of the Charlebois secondary school are here today—

[English]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. We are considering a motion under Standing Order 43. The Chair has to inquire whether there is unanimous consent.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent. The motion cannot be put.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Hees: It looks like the shacking-up is close to being over.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker: Concerning the point of order raised by the hon. member for Ottawa East, I must suggest to him that it is not in order. I must also tell him that it is against the practice of this House to bring to the attention of hon. members the presence of visitors in the galleries, except in very special circumstances, such as the visit of parliamentarians. I realize that it was hard for the hon. member to resist the temptation of drawing attention to the presence of certain students from his riding in the galleries, but I invite hon. members to follow the practice of this House.