

STATEMENT BY MR. SPEAKER

MR. SPEAKER: Before moving on to the next order of business perhaps I should refer to the matter raised earlier today when the honourable Member for York South (Mr. Lewis) proposed the adjournment of the House under Standing Order 26 to discuss an order of the Canadian Transport Commission. Honourable Members agreed with my suggestion that the Chair be given additional time to consider the proposed motion. When it came before the House I expressed reservations about the adequacy of the debate on an adjournment motion to consider this important issue. At the same time I recognized that the motion deals with a suggestion that is national in scope and of urgent importance.

After much thought I can say that the apparent urgency of the matter, the fact that it is of national interest and concern and, a factor which is even more material, the fact that there does not appear to be an early opportunity for debate would suggest that it would be the general consensus of the House that the Chair should accept the motion. This is essentially a borderline case, and, since I can see no reasonably early opportunity for the House to debate the issue, I feel that the honourable Member should be given the benefit of the doubt. While it may be that a more appropriate vehicle should be available to Members for the purpose of a debate on this issue, I would have to rule that on balance the motion ought to be accepted.

Accordingly, leave having been granted to debate the subject-matter;

Mr. Speaker, pursuant to section 9 of Standing Order 26, directed that the same stand over until 8.00 o'clock p.m., this day.

[At 5.00 o'clock p.m., *Private Members' Business* was called pursuant to Standing Order 15(4)]

(Notices of Motions)

Mr. Nesbitt, seconded by Mr. Hellyer, moved,—That, in the opinion of this House, where any person has an income of such amount that he is unable to pay for, in whole or in part, the cost of drugs that are medically prescribed for him or a dependent, the government should consider the advisability of taking steps, by itself or in co-operation with provincial authorities, to ensure that he is supplied with such drugs.—(*Notice of Motion No. 6*).

And debate arising thereon;

The hour for *Private Members' Business* expired.

By unanimous consent, it was ordered,—That speeches on the motion to be considered under Standing Order 26

be limited to ten minutes with the exception of the principal speakers who shall be limited to fifteen minutes, and that proceedings be concluded at 11.00 o'clock p.m.

Pursuant to Standing Order 26, at 8.00 o'clock p.m., Mr. Lewis, seconded by Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre), moved,—That this House do now adjourn.

After debate thereon, Mr. Speaker declared the motion carried.

Changes in Committee Membership

Notice having been filed with the Clerk of the House pursuant to Standing Order 65(4)(b), membership of Committees was amended as follows:

Messrs. Kempling, Morgan and Blenkarn for Messrs. Baker, Dick and Ritchie on the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs.

Messrs. McKinley, Stackhouse, Danforth, Kempling, Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo) and Grier for Messrs. Lundrigan, MacLean, Haliburton, Crouse, McCain and Olausson on the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Forestry.

Messrs. Nielsen, Ritchie and Baker for Messrs. Stackhouse, Blenkarn and Alexander on the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates.

Messrs. McGrath, Hueglin and Forrestall for Messrs. Muir, Ritchie and Schellenberger on the Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration.

Mr. Holmes for Mr. Beatty (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo) on the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Forestry.

Messrs. Taylor, Dinsdale and Fraser for Messrs. Yewchuk, Horner (Battleford-Kindersley) and Korchinski on the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

Mr. Smith (Saint-Jean) for Mr. Langlois on the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates.

Returns and Reports Deposited with the Clerk of the House

The following paper having been deposited with the Clerk of the House was laid upon the Table pursuant to Standing Order 41(1), namely:

By Mr. Jamieson, a Member of the Queen's Privy Council,—Report on the Operation of the Regional Development Incentives Act for the month of February, 1973, pursuant to section 16 of the said Act, chapter R-3, R.S.C., 1970. (English and French).—Sessional Paper No. 291-1/323.

At 11.00 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned until tomorrow at 2.00 o'clock p.m., pursuant to Standing Order 2(1).