

*Business of the House***FISHERIES****PROPOSED AID TO SMELT FISHERMEN IN NEW BRUNSWICK—
REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION
UNDER S.O. 43**

Mr. Leonard C. Jones (Moncton): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity requiring unanimous consent of the House.

In view of the fact that New Brunswick smelt fishermen are only being paid 8 cents to 10 cents per pound for their fish and that these products are sold retail for about 85 cents to 95 cents per pound, and these fishermen are losing money and are likely to cease operations completely, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Richmond (Mr. Beaudoin):

That the Minister of State responsible for Fisheries take immediate steps to remedy the plight of smelt fishermen in New Brunswick.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the terms of the motion. It being proposed pursuant to Standing Order 43, it cannot be debated without the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

* * *

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**PROCEDURE TO PERMIT MINISTER OF TRANSPORT TO MAKE
STATEMENT ON PICKERING AIRPORT**

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (President of the Privy Council): I should like to make a proposal about the handling of the statement later this day by my colleague, the Minister of Transport (Mr. Marchand), who has a statement to make about the government's decision on Pickering. But before doing so, may I welcome the return to the House of the hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin).

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Sharp: He looks fully rested and for the time being in a co-operative mood.

As I was saying, my colleague, the Minister of Transport, has an announcement which he would like to make this afternoon. Because of the nature of our business today, the timing is rather awkward and, therefore, I am making my proposal in a rather indefinite form. I would like to have the agreement of the House that there would be a return to motions to enable my colleague, the Minister of Transport, to make his statement at approximately five o'clock. In other words, if there is someone speaking, he would not be interrupted for the purpose of making a statement.

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): Mr. Speaker, I thank the members of the House for their welcome. I say to my hon. friend, the President of the Privy Council, who hoped that I was well rested and in a co-operative mood, that I am at least well rested—and in a co-operative mood, especially today.

[Mr. Speaker.]

With regard to the proposal made by the President of the Privy Council, I think that it is reasonable. If the Minister of Transport feels that he needs up to five o'clock to draft the statement finally, we will be prepared to agree to that proposal.

Mr. Hees: Barney is writing his speech, and for free, too.

Mr. Baldwin: I only hope that if an hon. member has the floor at that time, and has nearly finished his speech, the Chair would not see the clock until the speech has been concluded.

● (1430)

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, so often we get these requests on the basis of reasons concerning the stock market, and so on. It is refreshing to get the request today for the simple reason that the minister does not have the statement ready. In the discussions which took place before this agreement was reached, it was also understood that copies of the statement would be in the hands of each opposition spokesman a reasonable time before we revert to motions. I trust that is part of the agreement.

[Translation]

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, we are still agreeable to the general proposal of the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Sharp), but we wish to express further our hope there will be afterwards a question period that will last until the sitting is suspended at six o'clock.

[English]

Mr. Speaker: Before proceeding with the oral questions may I ask, in light of those remarks, is it agreed that the House revert to motions at five o'clock under those terms as proposed by the President of the Privy Council?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: It is so ordered.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

ENERGY**OIL—ANTICIPATED LEVEL OF IMPORT PRICES, DOMESTIC
PRICES AND VOLUME OF IMPORTS AS BASIS FOR IMPORT
COMPENSATION PAYMENT**

Mr. Jim Balfour (Regina East): My question is for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. In the main estimates tabled yesterday there is an item under the heading, Energy Supplies Allocation Board, for a payment of \$1.3 billion in oil import compensation. Would the minister clarify for the House the assumptions upon which this expenditure projection is based and, specifically, the anticipated level of crude oil import prices, the anticipated level of the domestic oil price and the volume of oil imports expected in the year?