HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, June 4, 1970

The House met at 2 p.m.

[Translation]

MOTION TO ADJOURN UNDER S.O. 26

INDUSTRY

NEED FOR MEASURES TO CURB IMPORTS OF

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, with the support of the hon, member for Beauce (Mr. Rodrigue), I ask leave to move the adjournment of the House under Standing Order 26 to discuss a specific and important matter concerning the very difficult situation of the footwear manufacturing industry of Canada.

This important and urgent matter is the pressing duty incumbent upon the government to take forthwith the necessary measures to restrict imports of footwear into Canada and thus favour Canadian industries.

The present situation in the footwear industry leads to short term unemployment and to the closing of an alarming number of factories in Canada.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Richmond has given the chair the required notice under Standing Order 26.

The problem brought up by the hon. member for Richmond is certainly of national importance and worries several of his colleagues as well who have already shown, by means of repeated representations during the last weeks and months, that they are equally interested in this matter.

However, it seems to me that this very important problem drawn to our attention by the hon. member for Richmond does not have the urgency and immediacy required under Standing Order 26.

With the hon, member for Richmond and his colleagues, we must admit it is a problem national in scope, but it is important the various provinces with the federal Ministhat a matter brought up under the provisions ter of Finance. They will be discussing this of Standing Order 26 be of a new, urgent and problem, and I will then be given a report sudden nature, otherwise we are not justi- by the federal Minister of Finance. I will see fied in implementing said order. As a state time if there are further steps along

Under the circumstances, while acknowledging again the immediate and national importance of the problem raised by the hon. member, I respectfully suggest to him that it is not possible today to propose a motion asking for the adjournment of the House to discuss the problem which he pointed out.

The hon, member will perhaps find another way under the provisions of another standing order, so that the House may have the opportunity to discuss the problem to which he referred.

[English]

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

INFLATION-SUGGESTED MEETING OF PRIME MINISTER AND LABOUR LEADERS

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): I have a question for the Prime Minister. As any programs to control inflation are unworkable without the active co-operation of organized labour, and as the answer given by the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs yesterday to the Leader of the Opposition made it very clear that any efforts which the Prices and Incomes Commission may have made to obtain this co-operation from organized labour have been discontinued, would the Prime Minister now give serious consideration to calling a private meeting of the leaders of organized labour and use the prestige of his very high office and his not inconsiderable persuasive powers to convince these gentlemen that it is in the national interest and very urgent for them to give their co-operation so that a program to control inflation can be of actual practicality?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I thank the hon. member for his suggestion. I will certainly consider it, but may I add that I do not think it is necessary to act in this regard today because a meeting is scheduled for tomorrow of the Ministers of Finance of

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