HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, May 18, 1972

The House met at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

[Translation]

HEALTH, WELFARE AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Second report of Standing Committee on Health, Welfare and Social Affairs—Mr. Forget (Saint-Michel).

[English]

PROCEDURE AND ORGANIZATION

First report of Standing Committee on Procedure and Organization—Mr. Blair.

[Editor's Note: For text of above reports, see today's Votes and Proceedings.]

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to seek the unanimous consent of the House to propose a motion under Standing Order 43. I understand that there has been consultation with the House leaders by the hon. member for Egmont (Mr. MacDonald) who is unable to be here today but who would have moved this motion had it been possible for him to be here. The motion is prompted by a sentence handed down in the courts in Hamilton a few days ago involving the imposition of corporal punishment on a young offender who, in addition to being sentenced to ten strokes of the lash, received a rather substantial jail sentence. Therefore I would move, seconded by the hon. member for Calgary North (Mr. Woolliams):

• (1410)

That this House recommend the suspension of sentences of corporal punishment until the disposition of Bill C-2 by this parliament.

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. This is somewhat irregular, I realize, but there were consultations with the hon. member for Egmont and I undertook to examine whether it would be possible to accede to this request. I find that there are some difficulties in accepting the motion but that the objective, hopefully, can be reached by another route. At least, that is under consideration. Regretfully, I would have to say no to the 25316—271

acceptance of the motion at this time, although I agree with the spirit of it.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): That is a typical Liberal position.

Mr. Speaker: The motion proposed by the hon. member for St. John's East is submitted to the House under the terms of Standing Order 43 and requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimity?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent and the hon. member's motion cannot be put at this time.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

TABLING OF SEABED ARMS CONTROL TREATY AND CANADIAN INTERPRETATIVE DECLARATION

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I wish to table in the two official languages copies of the seabed arms control treaty along with the Canadian interpretative declaration. The treaty was ratified yesterday and will come into force today.

COMMUNICATIONS

TABLING OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN DEPARTMENT AND EUROPEAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANIZATION ON CO-OPERATION IN FIELD OF ADVANCED SPACE TECHNOLOGY

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister of Communications): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 41(2) I wish to table in the two official languages copies of the memorandum of understanding between the Department of Communications of Canada and the European Space Research Organization concerning their co-operation in the field of advanced space technology, and also a copy of a diplomatic note to the Director General of the European Space Research Organization from the Secretary of State for External Affairs.