

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, March 1, 1976

The House met at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[Translation]

INDUSTRY

REQUEST FOR NEW POLICIES TO PROTECT TEXTILE PRODUCERS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 43, I ask the unanimous consent of the House to present a motion dealing with an urgent and important matter.

In view of the fact that the Quebec textile industry is increasingly threatened and urgently needs some correctives to restore a satisfactory economic stability, that most of its problems are due to rising imports and that the industry is comparatively isolated from the remainder of the Canadian economy, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Roberval (Mr. Gauthier):

That this House immediately discuss the condition of our textile industry to provide new policies liable to protect employment and assure Canadian markets and to consider the effectiveness of the suggestion made during the weekend by the Confederation of National Trade Unions for the establishment of the Textile and Clothing Board on a permanent basis.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The House has heard the motion of the hon. member. Pursuant to Standing Order 43, this motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there such consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent; the motion therefore cannot be put.

contract remains unsigned and the minister tells us this is because of long-term financial problems but declines to say what these are, is it part of this unsigned LRPA contract that Lockheed would provide a line of credit to Canada to enable production to get started?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services): Mr. Speaker, from the beginning of negotiations with the Lockheed company, I said to the House that our problem was first of all a financing problem. Of course, events that have developed since then on the international scene prompt us to be more cautious in our negotiations with Lockheed due to the long term financing situation of this company.

Nevertheless, the main problem is one of financing. The Department of Supply and Services as well as the Department of National Defence are trying to find a solution with the co-operation of Lockheed; up to this point, the parties involved have not agreed on any of them.

● (1410)

[English]

Mr. McKenzie: Mr. Speaker, as the minister stated Lockheed is now unable to provide this credit, is it forcing the Canadian government to find the money to get production started? In other words, are we not talking about a short term financial problem rather than a long term financial problem?

[Translation]

Mr. Goyer: Mr. Speaker, it is as much a long term as a short term financing problem, according to the place one occupies in the negotiation, whether one is with Lockheed or with the Department of National Defence.

In any event, negotiations are going on and the government will take a decision in the near future, to clear the situation since Lockheed has already begun to plan its production.

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[English]

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

SUPPLY AND SERVICES

CONTRACT WITH LOCKHEED—REASON FOR FAILURE TO SIGN

Mr. Dan McKenzie (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Supply and Services. Yesterday in British Columbia the Minister of National Defence said that Canada was going ahead with the Lockheed LRPA purchase. Since the Lockheed LRPA

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

ANTI-INFLATION PROGRAM—SUGGESTION EMPLOYEES BE GIVEN BENEFIT OF REMOVAL OF EXPORT TAX

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, I had a question for either the Prime Minister or the Secretary of State for External Affairs, but since neither is here I shall raise another matter with the Minister of Finance. During the past 72 hours, has the minister reconsidered the government's position on the implications of removing the export levy in the anti-inflation program with particular reference to enabling the workers, as com-