

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, April 5, 1973

The House met at 2 p.m.

SPRING!

Mr. Mark Rose (Fraser Valley West): Mr. Speaker, I suppose it is a bit unusual for a "Rose" to be part of a daffodil promotion; nevertheless I am pleased to be part of the traditional rite of spring in the House that heralds its coming in British Columbia and is announced by making flower children of all hon. members.

The Bradner daffodil growers of my riding, who donated these blooms, regret that spring is a little late this year and hope that next year the presentation can be made in late January or early February when the blossoms are usually at their peak.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES READJUSTMENT ACT

TABLING OF REPORT OF COMMISSION FOR PROVINCE OF NEWFOUNDLAND, 1973

Mr. Speaker: It is my duty, pursuant to Section 19 of the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act, Chapter E-2, Revised Statutes of Canada, 1970, to lay upon the table of the House a certified copy of the report of the Electoral Boundaries Commission for the province of Newfoundland, 1973.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

METHODS OF BENEFIT CONTROL OFFICERS—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 to move a motion concerning a matter of urgent and pressing necessity, namely, that benefit control officers of the Unemployment Insurance Commission are using devious methods to disqualify immigrants who are not fluent in one of the official languages from unemployment insurance benefits. Such methods are unacceptable to Canadians and, indeed, as far as this party is concerned are very repugnant. I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Hamilton West (Mr. Alexander):

That the question of methods used by benefit control officers of the Unemployment Insurance Commission to exclude immigrants who do not speak an official language from unemployment insurance

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benefits be referred to the appropriate standing committee for investigation and report to the House.

Mr. Speaker: Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent.

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VETERANS AFFAIRS

DIFFICULTIES IN MEETING LAND ACT REQUIREMENTS—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, I wish to move a motion under Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgency. The vast increases in the cost of land and housing are causing serious restrictions for some 125,000 war veterans who hold qualification certificates in meeting the requirements under the Veterans Land Act. This difficulty is emphasized by the acreage requirement, the limits on loans available, and the high down payment required. In order to bring legislation in line with the needs of the veterans, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Halton-Wentworth (Mr. Kempling):

That the government immediately appoint a committee, consisting of members of the department, officials of the veterans land administration and veterans organizations, to study these matters with specific consideration given to removing the October, 1968, and March, 1974, deadline restrictions, and that the report be referred to the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs within three months.

Mr. Speaker: Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent.

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REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

APPEARANCE OF MINISTER BEFORE COMMITTEE—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Bill Knight (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 to move a motion of urgent and pressing necessity. In view of the fact that a motion was passed in the Standing Committee on Regional Development this morning deploring the failure or unwillingness of the minister to appear before the committee, among other things, I ask unanimous consent to