

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, April 7, 1975

The House met at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

AGRICULTURE

SUGGESTED REPRIMAND OF MINISTER FOR MAKING ANNOUNCEMENTS OUTSIDE HOUSE—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. J. R. Ellis (Hastings): Mr. Speaker, under the provisions of Standing Order 43, I rise to propose a motion regarding statements made by the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Whelan) outside this House, statements such as concern the revised beef premium subsidy, the cow stabilization program and, in particular, the recent dairy announcement.

Noting that the minister promised the dairy farmers of Canada a comprehensive statement on dairy policy before the new dairy year began on April 1, and that despite questioning for many months, in particular, on March 20, 24, 25 and 26, the minister purposely chose to wait until March 27, the first day of the Easter recess, to announce portions of the dairy policy; and further noting that the announcement was deceptive in terms of the return to the farmers in that it encouraged premature price escalation to the consumer and prompted hoarding by those financially capable of doing so; and, again, noting the announced intention of the minister to reveal the full policy details outside the House on April 18—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. If the hon. member wishes to propose a motion pursuant to the standing order, I would ask him to put it forthwith.

Mr. Ellis: Mr. Speaker, I will propose the motion immediately. I move, seconded by the hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath):

That this House severely reprimands the Minister of Agriculture and instructs that in the future all statements on matters of substance to Canadian farmers be made in this House, excepting only in cases of extreme urgency and extenuating circumstances.

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

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

HISTORIC SITES

PROPOSED REVIEW OF ADMISSION FEES—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I ask leave to present a motion under Standing Order 43. I do so in the hope that the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Mr. Buchanan) has had an opportunity to give this matter consideration during the recess. I would therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Greenwood (Mr. Brewin):

That this House urges the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development to review the recently established scale of fees for admission to national historic sites, it being the view of this House that Canadians should be encouraged to visit a site such as Lower Fort Garry in Manitoba and should not be discouraged from doing so by a fee of \$2 per person or \$5 per family.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The motion proposed pursuant to Standing Order 43 cannot be presented without the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

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PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

ALLEGED EXCESSIVE COVERAGE BY CBC OF CARIBBEAN TRIP—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Tom Cossitt (Leeds): Mr. Speaker, I rise to seek permission to move a motion under Standing Order 43. It arises from the release of a list from the Prime Minister's office showing that 22 members of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation will travel to the Caribbean at public expense in connection with the news coverage of the Prime Minister's forthcoming trip to that area. I would move, seconded by the hon. member for Rocky Mountain (Mr. Clark):

That in view of the fact that the CBC should not be used as a public relations vehicle by the government or for the promotion of the Prime Minister's image, the House requests the Prime Minister for a detailed explanation of the lavish and excessive coverage planned for his forthcoming Caribbean travels by approximately 22 CBC staff personnel at public expense and further the House requests curtailment of such plans to an extent in keeping with the actual news value of the event.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The motion is proposed pursuant to Standing Order 43. It cannot be presented without the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.