Withholding of Grain Payments

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of the report of the interdepartmental committee, the establishment of which was announced on March 29, 1965, which studied the question of fish and game laws as they relate to native Indians.

The adoption of that motion was contingent upon a statement made by the Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Privy Council with regard to the authorization of the government authorities concerned. Yesterday a return was tabled pursuant to that order which states as follows:

This motion was accepted on September 8, 1971, subject to provincial concurrence. We have been informed that the province of British Columbia will not concur in the tabling of this report.

The motion I seek to move is seconded by the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mrs. MacInnis). I might add that it is not my desire to enter into a debate about the matter and cut into government business, but we think an expression of opinion by the House concerning this matter is most necessary and urgent in the circumstances because of the importance of this report to the Indian people of British Columbia. The motion I should like to move is as follows:

This House regrets very much that the government of the Province of British Columbia refuses to concur in the tabling in this House of the Stanbury-Fields report.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the motion proposed by the hon. member for Skeena which requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity. The motion cannot be put.

GRAIN

WITHHOLDING BY GOVERNMENT OF PAYMENTS UNDER TEMPORARY WHEAT RESERVES ACT—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. John Burton (Regina East): Mr. Speaker, I ask the unanimous consent of the House to move a motion under Standing Order 43. My motion arises from certain answers given by the minister in charge of the Wheat Board on Monday afternoon in the House concerning the government's attitude toward the Temporary Wheat Reserves Act. My motion is self-explanatory. I move, seconded by the hon. member for Regina-Lake Centre (Mr. Benjamin):

That this House notes with concern the failure of the minister in charge of the Canadian Wheat Board to take action to protect the interests of wheat producers in western Canada by reason of his acknowledgement that a legal opinion was not requested on the government's action in not making payments under the Temporary Wheat Reserves Act since August 1, 1970.

Mr. Speaker: Under the terms of Standing Order 43 this motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent for the putting of the motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

[Mr. Howard (Skeena).]

Mr. Speaker: Since there is not unanimity the hon. member's motion cannot be placed before the House.

[Translation]

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ACT

MEASURE TO PROVIDE FOR TABLING IN HOUSE OF ANNUAL REPORT

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-265 entitled "An Act to amend the Department of Justice Act (Annual Report)".

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Fortin: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of the bill which I have the honour to introduce today is to compel the Department of Justice which is the only department not reporting to Parliament to do so.

This amendment is therefore aimed at correcting that anomaly to ensure better parliamentary control on that department and to improve its efficiency.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

[English]

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

CANADIAN PARTICIPATION IN EXPLORATION FOR OIL OFF THE EAST COAST

Question No. 1,212-Mr. McCleave:

1. Did Catalina Exploration and Development Limited suggest to the government any remedies to enable more Canadian participation in exploration for oil off the East Coast and, if so, what were they?

2. If any such suggestions were received, what action was taken on each recommendation?

Mr. J. A. Jerome (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): 1. Catalina Exploration and Development Limited, in conversations with departmental officials, suggested to the Department of National Revenue, Customs and Excise, that the full rates of customs duty applicable under the law be charged against foreign seismic exploration vessels entering Canadian territorial waters.

2. The Department of National Revenue, Customs and Excise, charges the rates of customs duty properly payable under the law and the representative of Catalina Exploration and Development Limited was so informed.

EXPENSES FOR THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

Question No. 1,225-Mr. Nystrom:

1. What were the total expenses for the Prime Minister's Office in 1970 (a) his official expenses (b) his staff expenses?

2. What were the total expenses for the Prime Minister's Office in 1967 (a) his official expenses (b) his staff expenses?