

*B.C. Oil Drilling*

As the other members, we hope that the other nations will follow suit and show more understanding and co-operation in order that there may be less suspicion among them. Thus, the entire world will be in a position to consider the future more calmly than in the past few years.

We are pleased to hear such good news and we hope that a similar agreement will be concluded with the other nations that already have nuclear weapons.

[*English*]

**OIL**

**B.C. DRILLING PERMITS—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION UNDER S.O. 43**

**Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** Mr. Speaker, I desire to introduce a motion of urgent and pressing necessity under Standing Order 43 which reads as follows:

A motion may, in case of urgent and pressing necessity previously explained by the mover, be made by unanimous consent of the House without notice having been given under Standing Order 42.

My explanation, Mr. Speaker, is quite brief. My motion arises out of the fact that the government of British Columbia has granted seismic testing permits for drilling in the coastal areas of B.C., in particular in Georgia Strait. The people who live in those areas are fearful that they will be subjected to the same kind of oil pollution which has been experienced by people living in the coastal areas of California. If the seismic tests prove to be favourable the oil companies will be applying to the federal government for oil drilling permits.

I therefore contend it is imperative that parliament be given an opportunity to express its opinion on this matter and that the government should indicate whether or not it intends to grant these oil drilling permits before the seismic testing goes too far. I would therefore like to move, seconded by the hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis):

That this House expresses its concern regarding the potential oil pollution arising from the proposed exploratory drilling in the Georgia Strait and in the waters off the coast of British Columbia and urges that all those concerned take immediate steps to assure that this will not be allowed to happen.

**Mr. Speaker:** As the hon. member knows, this motion, to be presented for consideration

[*Mr. Caouette.*]

by the House at this time, requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous agreement?

**Some hon. Members:** Yes.

**Some hon. Members:** No.

**Mr. Speaker:** There is not. Therefore the motion may not be put to the House.

**URBAN AFFAIRS**

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION UNDER S.O. 43**

**Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas) has indicated the gist of Standing Order 43. I would now ask for the unanimous consent of the House to move a motion under that Standing Order. In order to establish the urgent and pressing necessity which justifies my request I make the following brief explanation. The federal government, Mr. Speaker, is currently involved in a number of problems relating to issues which directly affect the municipalities, that is, airport location, pollution, violence, urban transportation, housing and slum clearance, urban poverty, etc. Despite the provincial governments' primary constitutional responsibility, it is urgent and essential that a forum be established by this House to permit those concerned in such immediate urban problems to make their representations.

I therefore ask for unanimous consent to move the following motion:

That in the opinion of this House, a special committee of this House on urban affairs should be appointed to consider and make recommendations, and to report to this House on the advisability of measures to be taken affecting people living in urban areas.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member has indicated the urgency of this matter and has indicated what his motion is. I hope he does not intend to proceed into the matter much further. I have to bring to the attention of hon. members that a special committee of the House spent a few years revising our rules, changing substantially Standing Order 26. I would think that hon. members would agree that we should not now find a way to circumvent the new rules of the House by abusing—by taking advantage of Standing Order 43. If