HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, May 11, 1973

The House met at 11 a.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

FISHERIES

AGREEMENT WITH UNITED STATES ON RECIPROCAL PRIVILEGES—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 43 I seek the unanimous consent of the House to move a motion of urgent and pressing necessity which arises from termination of the Pacific salmon talks between Canada and the United States of America relating to a new agreement on reciprocal fishing privileges to replace the one that expires very shortly, and from the desirability of parliament declaring a Canadian position on this matter without delay. Therefore I move, seconded by the hon. member for Skeena (Mr. Howard):

That this House affirms the desirability of future co-operation between Canada and the United States in all matters relating to fisheries conservation and harvesting, which in its view must be based on recognition by both countries of each other's prior right to all fish stocks of its currently declared fishing zones and territorial seas, and of salmon originating in its rivers.

And that this House further affirms that, because of the intermingling of stocks in the fishing waters of the two countries, it is desirable that there be a continuing agreement between the two countries which will provide for an equitable division of the intercepted catch between nationals of the two countries.

Mr. Speaker: Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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

RAILWAY ACT

AMENDMENT TO INCREASE HEIGHT AND STANDARD OF RIGHT OF WAY FENCING IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Mr. Stan Schumacher (Palliser) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-180, to amend the Railway Act.

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Schumacher: Mr. Speaker, at the present time the only requirement for fencing of railway right of way is a four and a half foot fence. While this may have been

satisfactory for the nineteenth century conditions under which that section of the act was passed, it is not satisfactory now, particularly for the protection of the life and limb of children who reside near railway rights of way in built-up areas. The purpose of this bill is to provide a higher standard of fencing in such areas.

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

CANADA PENSION PLAN

PROVISION OF COUNSEL TO PERSONS SEEKING
DISABILITY PENSIONS

On the order: Introduction of Bills:

February 20, 1973—Mr. Coates—Bill intituled: "An Act to amend the Canada Pension Plan".

Mr. Robert C. Coates (Cumberland-Colchester North): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege in relation to this bill which for some time now has been allowed to stand. I feel that possibly it should not be stood any longer.

There have been discussions relating to this bill. The objective of the bill was to try to ensure that those people who were applying for a disability pension under the Canada Pension Plan and had gone through the procedures and were without counsel when they reached a certain position would have counsel afforded them. As a result of some difficulties regarding the possibility that this involved the expenditure of money and would upset the balance of ways and means, concern was expressed on the part of the Chair whether or not this was a proper private member's bill.

In the meantime, Mr. Speaker, I have had correspondence with the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Lalonde), and in that correspondence he has given me certain assurances he will make a technical amendment to the Canada Pension Plan legislation that, in effect, will do what I was trying to accomplish with this private member's bill. As a result of that assurance and as a result of the awareness of the minister of the concerns and problems of people in this position, I would like to withdraw the bill and thank the minister for his kindness in taking this step.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Is it agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.
Order discharged and bill withdrawn.