Point of Order-Mr. de Jong

INDUSTRIAL AND LABOUR ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM

REQUEST FOR DESIGNATION OF SQUAMISH, B.C.

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops-Shuswap): Madam Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance regarding the economically hard-pressed community of Squamish, B.C., which now has an unemployment rate in the 30 per cent range. The community has just found out that its wood fibre pulp mill will be closed for an undetermined period of time, laying off an additional 450 persons. Will the Minister make some effort to have this community in British Columbia designated under the ILAP program, as not a single western community has so far been designated?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance): Madam Speaker, I will raise the Hon. Member's representation with the Cabinet Committee on the ILAP Program. The Chairman of the Committee is now the Minister of Economic Development. I will bring this representation to his attention. I am not quite sure about the Hon. Member's statement that there is not a single western community under the ILAP Program. He may be right, but I thought some had been designated. I will check into this matter.

POINTS OF ORDER

MR. DE JONG-ACCEPTABILITY OF S.O. 43 MOTION

Mr. Simon de Jong (Regina East): Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I recognize that I cannot and will not question your ruling regarding the motion I introduced earlier today under Standing Order 43. You might have misheard the motion that I was trying to introduce because of the noise in the Chamber at that time. I would therefore request that you kindly review the "blues" to determine if the matter I was trying to raise falls under federal jurisdiction. I honestly believe that the matter I was raising poses a serious infringement on the federal Charter of Rights and Freedoms. I believe the matter should have been allowed to be introduced in the House.

Madam Speaker: The Hon. Member is right. I do not think I heard one line in particular in the Hon. Member's presentation which referred to the Canadian Charter of Rights. There was some noise. The Hon. Member was reading quite fast because his motion was long. I was especially struck by the motion which called for some kind of redress in the Parliament of Saskatchewan. I therefore gathered that he was dealing solely with a matter under provincial jurisdiction. I think I can do him right by asking if he will come back with the motion tomorrow, and then he can put it to the House.

Mr. Deans: Madam Speaker, I might say that if you were to put the motion under Standing Order 43 now, the Tories would be delighted to say no.

Madam Speaker: I could not possibly go back to motions under Standing Order 43 without the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: No.

Madam Speaker: If the Hon. Member can come back with his motion tomorrow, that would be very helpful.

MR. KAPLAN—CORRECTION OF EARLIER REMARK

Hon. Bob Kaplan (Solicitor General of Canada): Madam Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. I would like at the first opportunity to correct one word of an answer that I gave to a question from the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Clark). I referred to a letter which had been exhibited in a courtroom in Great Britain. I meant to say "an envelope".

MR. STEVENS—ALLEGED IRREGULARITY OF ESTIMATE BEFORE STANDING COMMITTEES

Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Peel): Madam Speaker, I rise on a matter with respect to the estimates that will be before us tomorrow evening for voting purposes. This is the first opportunity I have had to speak to my point of order since getting the electronic transcript with respect to certain evidence given by Senator Austin in the Committee of this House known as Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs touching specifically on the estimates that we will be considering tomorrow night. The estimate that I refer to specifically is the one appearing in Supplementary Estimates B for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1983 under the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Commerce and known as Vote 26b, being a payment to Canadair Limited as equity of \$200 million, and Vote 27b, being a payment to The de Havilland Aircraft of Canada Limited as equity of \$200 million.

Where the irregularity appears to have arisen is that subsequent to the estimates being tabled in this House, events have transpired which now make the estimate on its face incorrect and certainly not in a form that could be properly voted on tomorrow evening.

What I am referring to is that on November 24 of this year the Prime Minister's (Mr. Trudeau) office stated in a press release:

The Prime Minister announced today that the Government has approved the transfer of certain commercial assets and enterprises to the Canada Development Investment Corporation (CDIC) and its responsible Minister, Senator Jack Austin. In addition to the Government's Canada Development Corporation (CDC) shares, the transfer is to include: Canadair Limited, The de Havilland Aircraft of Canada—

And certain other corporations.

This transfer was subsequently confirmed on the same day in another press release issued by the Government of Canada in which it was stated: