• (1415)

Oral Questions

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

PUBLICATION OF SITTING DATES FOR HOUSE AND COMMITTEES—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. J. R. Ellis (Prince Edward-Hastings): Madam Speaker, my motion under Standing Order 43 is as follows. The lack of firm sitting dates for the House of Commons, such as are found in other legislative forums, denies members of Parliament of all parties the ability to plan properly constituency activities which in many instances are frequently as important as activities within the House of Commons. Therefore I move, seconded by the hon. member for Brampton-Georgetown (Mr. McDermid):

That the government announce by the first week of each session the dates upon which the House shall sit and that the calendar year allocated for sittings of House and committees be published one year in advance.

Madam Speaker: Such a motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

RECYCLING OF NEWSPRINT DISCARDED FROM PARLIAMENTARY OFFICES—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Bill Clarke (Vancouver Quadra): Madam Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43. Since it is in the interests of all Canadians that we conserve and reuse resources to the largest extent possible; since a successful paper recycling project is at present in place on Parliament Hill but does not include newspapers; since members of Parliament and their staffs now use many newspapers which at present must be discarded; since there are now successful newspaper recycling projects in operation in at least two communities in the national capital region, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Lisgar (Mr. Murta):

That the House recognize the need to take all possible steps to conserve our natural resources and request the officials of the House to take such measures as are necessary to ensure recycling of newsprint discarded from their parliamentary precincts.

Madam Speaker: Such a motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

POST OFFICE

CAMPBELLVILLE, ONT.—DELIVERY OF MAIL IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATIONS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Otto Jelinek (Halton): Madam Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43. In view of the fact that Campbellville post office in my constituency of Halton has taken upon itself to return all mail not marked "general delivery", even though the names, addresses and postal codes are marked properly thereon, and because the Postmaster General (Mr. Ouellet) has failed to respond to my request to investigate this matter, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Perth (Mr. Jarvis):

That this House direct the Postmaster General to have his officials look into this matter forthwith and at the same time instruct the Campbellville postmaster to have all mails delivered in accordance with general postal regulations.

Madam Speaker: The motion can be put to the House only with unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

LABOUR DISPUTES

NEWFOUNDLAND FISHING INDUSTRY—INQUIRY AS TO GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE

Hon. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Madam Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans. As he knows, the fishing industry in Newfoundland is virtually at a standstill as a result of a legal strike by the fishermen's union at two plants, triggering a lockout at the remaining plants and thereby placing 12,000 plant workers and 8,000 fishermen out of work. Have the hon. gentleman's good offices or those of his department been called upon to assist the government of Newfoundland, which exercises principal jurisdiction here, in putting an end to this very costly dispute?

Hon. Roméo LeBlanc (Minister of Fisheries and Oceans): Madam Speaker, the hon. member has recognized the jurisdiction of the provincial government of Newfoundland. About a month ago I met the Newfoundland minister of fisheries and, in view of this looming deadlock between the fishermen and the processors, I put to him a suggestion that an industrial inquiry or some other form of inquiry might serve to cool tempers down and put all the facts on the table. I offered the full co-operation of my department in terms of making statistics and personnel available to inform the public, the fishermen and the processors of everything we knew. I regret very much that the Newfoundland minister of fisheries and the govern-