

## HOUSE OF COMMONS

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Thursday, May 26, 1966

The house met at 2.30 p.m.

[Translation]

### COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

#### FIRST REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

**Mr. G.-C. Lachance (Lafontaine)** presented the first report of the standing committee on labour and employment.

[Note: Text of the foregoing report appears in today's Votes and Proceedings.]

#### FIRST REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY, RESEARCH AND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

**Mr. Ovide Laflamme (Québec-Montmorency)** in the absence of the chairman and with the consent of the house, presented the first report of the standing committee on industry, research and energy development, in both French and English.

[Note: Text of the foregoing report appears in today's Votes and Proceedings.]

● (2:40 p.m.)

[English]

### PRAIRIE FARM ASSISTANCE ACT

#### AMENDMENT RESPECTING PAYMENT FOR HAIL DAMAGE

**Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Bow River)** moved for leave to introduce Bill No. C-187, to amend the Prairie Farm Assistance Act (hail damage).

**Some hon. Members:** Explain.

**Mr. Woolliams:** This bill proposes an amendment to the Prairie Farm Assistance Act. Under this act, where the average yield of wheat, etc. is under eight bushels per acre in an eligible block of land, the farmers in that area receive payment. This amendment proposes that when crop loss is due to hail the block provision will be eliminated and payment will be made on an individual basis to the amount of contributions made by the farmers.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

### TRANSPORT

#### SEAWAY AND CANAL TOLLS—MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT UNDER STANDING ORDER 26

**Mr. Reg Cantelon (Kindersley):** Mr. Speaker, I ask leave, seconded by the hon. member for Dauphin (Mr. Forbes) to move the adjournment of the house under standing order 26 for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of public importance, namely the proposal of the St. Lawrence Seaway Authority to recommend the adoption of a new tolls tariff commencing in the 1967 navigation season, such tariff involving an increase in the present tolls of approximately 10 per cent on shipping on the seaway and an escalating lockage charge per vessel using the locks, which will have an adverse effect on Canada's exports. In particular it will lead, according to Mr. Gibbings, president of the Saskatchewan wheat pool, to a reduction in the returns to western wheat producers by 1½ cents per bushel.

**Mr. Speaker:** I should like to invite hon. members to offer advice to the Chair on the question of urgency of debate.

**Mr. Cantelon:** In my view this matter is urgent since the board's decision may well be made known within a matter of a few days. The public hearings into the proposal, which started yesterday, I believe, were concluded this morning. It is a matter of importance since the inevitable effect of the tolls will be to increase transportation costs on everything entering and leaving western Ontario and western Canada. It is a matter of urgency since it is quite apparent there are only a few days left before the board will make its decision. It is important that this house should record its views on this matter, so that the feelings of the people in the country may be taken into account by the board prior to a decision being made.

We are concerned, and it is a matter of importance to us; because on two previous occasions I have introduced this matter into the house and have been unable to secure an assurance from the government that this question would be brought before the house for discussion. I consider it is urgent, therefore, and must be attended to immediately.