

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, October 28, 1970

The House met at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I wish to advise the House of a slight change in the business that will be called today. As the result of an agreement with the other parties, the first items of government business to be called will be orders Nos. 12, 13, 14 and 15 for the setting up of committees. It is expected that these motions will be carried without debate.

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque): Mr. Speaker, there have been discussions between the House Leaders on this matter. It is agreeable to this party to proceed as stated by the Government House Leader.

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, it is quite agreeable. It would be even more agreeable if the Minister of Fisheries and Forestry would put forward a motion to refer the draft agreement with the Soviet Union to the Fisheries Committee.

Mr. Speaker: Is it agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

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NATIONAL SECURITY

PROCLAMATION OF WAR MEASURES ACT—SECRET INFORMATION—POSSIBLE REPLACEMENT OF QUEBEC GOVERNMENT—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask for the unanimous consent of the House to move a motion under Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. A brief explanation for this request is as follows: During the debate on the motion of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) to approve the proclamation of the War Measures Act and the Order in Council made under it, ministers of the Crown referred to alleged information in the possession of the government which the Prime Minister has so far refused to divulge to the House and to the people of Canada.

● (2:10 p.m.)

In recent days there have been rumours allegedly originating with persons in high places in Ottawa respecting the possible replacement of the Bourassa government of Quebec by a provisional government, rumours

which the Prime Minister has refused either to confirm or deny. The result is widespread confusion about a crucial matter affecting our democratic institutions, and speculation about many well-known Canadians whose reputation is thereby damaged.

I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles):

That the matter of the secret information to which ministers of the Crown referred during the debate on Friday, October 16, and the matter of the rumours regarding a possible replacement of the Bourassa government of Quebec by a provisional government, be referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs for a full and thorough inquiry and to report thereon to this House.

Mr. Speaker: As hon. members know, unanimous consent is required before such a motion can be moved.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is no unanimity.

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk).

CANADIAN ARMED FORCES REGULAR OFFICERS

Question No. 11—**Mr. Rowland:**

1. What was the total number of persons accepted for the Canadian Armed Forces regular officers training plan in each year 1967, 1968, 1969 and 1970?

2. By province, how many candidates were accepted for each year?

3. For each year, how many of the successful applicants were (a) bilingual (b) indicated that English was their primary official language (c) indicated that French was their primary official language?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of National Defence):					
	1967	1968	1969	1970	
1.	554	649	552	481	
2.	1967	1968	1969	1970	
Nfld.	3	7	10	5	
P.E.I.	6	6	2	4	
N.S.	34	41	22	15	
N.B.	30	21	11	8	
Que.	156	171	169	144	
Ont.	169	232	211	174	
Man.	26	36	23	32	
Sask.	30	34	30	39	
Alta.	43	53	46	46	
B.C.	53	39	23	14	
Other	4	9	5	—	