

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, November 27, 1973

The House met at 2 p.m.

[English]

PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

LOWERING OF TEMPERATURE TO CONSERVE FUEL

Mr. Speaker: Hon. members might want to allow me to refer quickly to the statement made yesterday by the hon. Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources with reference particularly to the temperature in public buildings. It was felt that hon. members would want to comply with the suggestion made by the minister at the time, and agreed to by hon. members, that perhaps we might make our contribution by having the temperature in the building reduced. My understanding is that the temperature in the parliament buildings' offices and this chamber will be in the 68 to 70 degree range. I am informed it is now down to 70 and dropping. I am sure this temperature will assist hon. members to keep their tempers cool, as usual, and assist them with their cold logic.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

TRANSPORT

PROPOSED BOXCAR CONTROLLER—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 to seek the unanimous consent of the House to a motion, which is seconded by the hon. member for Crowfoot (Mr. Horner), of urgent and pressing necessity, namely, the serious situation created economically and to the export trade because wheat is not being moved as fairly and expeditiously as it should be, the railway companies preferring transport of more lucrative commodities and products and continuing to deny a fair and reasonable share of freight cars for wheat transport.

To secure action beneficial to the wheat farmer and to the Canadian economy, the government is urged to bring before the House at once legislation to provide for a boxcar controller with authority to allocate the needed boxcars for wheat, and to include therein substantial penalties for failure to provide such cars as shall be directed by the said controller.

Mr. Speaker: I am not sure that I recognize the actual motion but I will inquire whether there is unanimous consent to the motion proposed by the right hon. member

for Prince Albert under the terms of Standing Order 43. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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

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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

GARRISON WATER DIVERSION PROJECT, NORTH DAKOTA—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Bill Knight (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity pursuant to Standing Order 43. In view of the fact that Canada, through a diplomatic note to the United States, urgently requests the United States to establish a moratorium on all further construction on the North Dakota project known as the Garrison Diversion Unit until Ottawa is assured "that Canadian rights and interests have been fully protected" under the Boundary Waters Treaty, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles):

That the House of Commons approves and supports in principle the diplomatic note defending Canadian rights and interests under the Boundary Waters Treaty in order to avoid the needless polluting of two major Canadian river systems.

Mr. Speaker: This motion also requires unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: I am not sure whether there were nays. I will inquire again. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: I think I heard some nays but they were faint. The Chair is placed in a difficult situation. I will inquire again, and if any member has a serious objection and wishes to so indicate I will recognize that hon. member. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: I think there is unanimity.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Motion agreed to.