

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, April 25, 1974

The House met at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

POST OFFICE

POSTAL WORKERS' STRIKE—SUGGESTED END TO MAIL DELIVERY MONOPOLY—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Bill Clarke (Vancouver Quadra): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 to seek unanimous consent of the House to put a motion concerning a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. Once again a strike in the postal service has disrupted mail delivery in Canada, causing great hardship and inconvenience to millions of people whose pension and other cheques are being delayed, and creating untold extra costs for all businesses in Canada which must ultimately be borne by consumers. Section 8 of the Post Office Act gives to the Postmaster General the sole and exclusive privilege—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Perhaps the hon. member would put the motion to the House. I am not sure whether this is the motion or the explanatory part, but really a motion should be put without a long explanation or preface.

Mr. Clarke (Vancouver Quadra): That was merely the explanation, Mr. Speaker. I would therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Parry Sound-Muskoka (Mr. Darling):

That this House give immediate consideration to taking whatever action is necessary to repeal the grant of monopoly to the Canada Post Office in order to allow private enterprisers to offer competitive service, thereby giving the people of Canada the opportunity, in a genuinely free and competitive market, to buy the postal services they need from the most efficient supplier thereof.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the motion proposed by the hon. member for Vancouver Quadra. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent.

FLOODS

MOOSE JAW—IMMEDIATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Doug Neil (Moose Jaw): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity under the provisions of Standing Order 43. In view of the fact flood damage in Moose Jaw is estimated to total approximately \$10 million, and in view of the fact many residents will not have money to repair and clean up their homes and replace their personal and household goods lost in the flood, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Battleford-Kin-dersley (Mr. Horner):

That the government give consideration to making funds available immediately on an emergency basis to assist these people to become re-established.

Mr. Speaker: The motion proposed under the terms of Standing Order 43 requires unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity.

SASKATCHEWAN—FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR PREVENTIVE WORKS—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina-Lake Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise to request unanimous consent to move a motion under Standing Order 43 on a matter of great urgency that requires immediate clarification, namely, the conflicting answers and statements of the Prime Minister and two other cabinet ministers on whether or not the federal formula for sharing of costs resulting from flood damage in Saskatchewan also covers costs incurred for temporary works such as dykes and sandbagging. If I have the unanimous consent of the House, I would move, seconded by the hon. member for Assiniboia (Mr. Knight):

That this House is in agreement with the answer of the Minister of Environment (Mr. Davis) who said at page 1674 of *Hansard* for April 23: "In other words, temporary works such as the dykes now being built and sandbagging are subject to the formula for cost sharing".

And further, that this House requests the government to ensure that such costs are in fact shared with the province and municipalities concerned.

Mr. Speaker: Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity.