

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, April 24, 1969

The house met at 2 p.m.

[Translation]

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS

Fifth report of Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections—Mr. Ovide Laflamme (Montmorency).

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

[English]

THE MINISTRY

RESIGNATION FROM GOVERNMENT OF HON. PAUL HELLYER

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I should like to inform the house that I have this morning received a letter of resignation as a member of the government from the Hon. Paul Hellyer, Minister of Transport, and that I have recommended to the Deputy Governor General, the Right Hon. Mr. Justice Cartwright, that the minister's resignation be accepted.

I will table later in the day correspondence exchanged between the minister and myself relative to the resignation.

MOTION TO ADJOURN UNDER S.O. 26

HOUSING

RESIGNATION OF MINISTER AND FAILURE OF GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE ACCOMMODATION—MOTION TO ADJOURN UNDER STANDING ORDER 26

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I have a bit of a difficult problem which I have to bring to the attention of the house, in that earlier today the Chair received two notices provided for under Standing Order 26. One of the two motions preceded the other, and I might say had the additional qualification of having been tendered and received within the time limit set by the rules. In fairness, and in

attempting to consider this matter as Solomon might have, I think that the first motion, the one received initially by the Chair, should be put, subject to the Chair reading both motions to the house. The first motion to which I have alluded is one which was tendered by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas).

• (2:10 p.m.)

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, I ask leave, seconded by the hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis), to move the adjournment of the house under Standing Order 26, for the purpose of discussing a specific and important matter requiring urgent consideration, namely the resignation of the Minister of Transport (Mr. Hellyer), because of the failure of the government to agree to take action to increase the housing supply in Canada, and the consequent danger of further delay in the taking of adequate legislative and financial steps to meet the housing crisis that now faces this country.

Mr. Speaker: As I indicated a moment ago, I had received the motion which has now been read by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas) and a similar motion from the hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) moving the adjournment of the house under Standing Order 26 for the purpose of discussing a specific and important matter requiring urgent consideration, namely the resignation from the government of the Hon. Paul Hellyer as Minister of Transport, because of the failure of the government to reach decisions urgently needed to meet the housing crisis in Canada.

Since both notices cover exactly the same ground I might deal with both motions at the same time. The matter raised by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands and the proposed motion by the Leader of the Opposition deal of course with a most important matter, so important indeed that there is some thought in my mind that it should be considered by the house as soon as possible. As hon. members know, the house, under a special order, has set aside two days sittings for a discussion of Canada's participation in NATO.