

I want to offer our co-operation again to pass without debate legislation that would continue, until this legislation is eventually passed, the variable entrance rates that are presently in place.

Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, before the Minister of Justice gets up again I would like to raise an issue with him. He wants Bill C-47 passed tomorrow. Could he assure the House that no Canadian elector will be barred from running in a by-election by the passage of this legislation?

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, in answering the second question first, I would advise the House that the amendments to the Elections Act which are before the House at the present time in Bill C-47 are simply to correct a section of the Elections Act which was left out of the Revised Statutes of Canada in error.

I am not prepared at this time to give a legal opinion on my hon. friend's question. I will certainly take that under advisement. If he has any specific questions he wishes to ask on that issue, I think those would be best addressed to the Chief Electoral Officer.

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• (1510)

MOTION TO ADJOURN UNDER S. O. 52

ATLANTIC FISHERY—SPEAKER'S RULING

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Chair received this morning an application under Standing Order 52 for an emergency debate. I have given careful consideration to the request made by the member for Cape Breton Highlands—Canso and at this time the debate will not be granted.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

GOVERNMENT SERVICES RESUMPTION ACT

MEASURE TO ENACT

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. de Cotret that Bill C-49, an act to provide for the resumption of certain government services, be read the third time and passed.

Government Orders

Mrs. Marlene Catterall (Ottawa West): Mr. Speaker, when we adjourned for the lunch break I was responding to some of the points made by the hon. parliamentary secretary while speaking in support of the bill. I was just commencing comment on his statements on the role of my colleague, the member for Dartmouth, in the discussions on this bill that have taken place.

The hon. parliamentary secretary stated quite clearly that my colleague has in fact not well represented his constituents and that he is responsible for the matter of parity of pay between east coast ships' crews' workers and west coast ships' crews' workers not being granted.

I had alluded to the failure of the memory of the hon. parliamentary secretary. He is well aware that it is my colleague from Dartmouth who was responsible for ensuring to the best of his efforts that pay equity would be a given, that it would not be something that would be referred to the conciliation board, that it would be decided and accepted by the President of the Treasury Board before the conciliation board was even struck, before the conciliation board even met, and that it would not be included in the matters to be decided by the conciliation board.

My colleague, the member for Dartmouth, had assured those ships' crews' workers that they would finally have—not out of the goodness of the heart of this government but because of the position he took—parity on the signing of this contract, that it would not be used as blackmail or as a tool to pry from them concessions on any other matter to be dealt with in those negotiations.

I think it is unfair of the member who spoke to relate what happened in a way contrary to the events that actually took place. I hope that perhaps he might consider seeking professional advice for the obvious lapse in his memory.

The lapse in his memory has applied to other things as well. I think I am being kind here and within the rules of parliamentary procedure. The member also referred to the meetings of the legislative committee that took place last Sunday at which members of the government were not prepared to accede to the request of members of the Official Opposition for information on the severity of the situation.

Neither he nor his colleagues would accede to our request that we have before us the Minister of Transport who could give first-hand information on the situation in the Seaway, on the situation on the Saguenay River, on