

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, March 20, 1979

The House met at 2 p.m.

● (1405)

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

HOUSE OF COMMONS

DELAY IN ANSWERING ORDER PAPER QUESTIONS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, I rise, under the provisions of Standing Order 43, on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity concerning the unjustifiable failure of the government to answer the following questions asked by me: No. 576, of November 14, 1978; No. 611, of November 22, 1978; and No. 1,032, of February 6, 1979.

Without there being prompt replies to questions asked in parliament, authorities on parliamentary procedure without exception have concluded that the institution would be detrimentally eroded and ultimately destroyed. Therefore, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Vegreville (Mr. Mazankowski):

To prevent the truth being denied by the government to the Canadian people by government roadblocks of silence, that the government forthwith be directed to provide prompt answers to these questions, otherwise with dissolution they will remain unanswered.

Mr. Speaker: The introduction of such a motion at this time would require unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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CULTURAL AFFAIRS

REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR WINNIPEG SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, considering the delightful concert that was given today in the rotunda by the National Arts Centre Orchestra, perhaps I might be permitted to say that one good orchestra deserves another. Accordingly, under the provisions of Standing Order 43, and seconded by the hon. member for Winnipeg North (Mr. Orlikow), I move:

That this House expresses its concern over the loss that Canada would suffer if the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra were to fold and, therefore, notwithstanding the primary responsibility of the government of Manitoba as well as of individual and corporate donors in Manitoba, calls on the federal government to make an appropriate grant so that the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra may be enabled to continue to enrich the cultural life of Canada.

Mr. Speaker: Such a motion can be introduced for debate at this time only with the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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[Translation]

VETERANS AFFAIRS

SUGGESTION THAT PENSION COMMISSION EXPEDITE CONSIDERATION OF CASES—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, under the provisions of Standing Order 43, I ask for the unanimous consent of the House to move a motion dealing with an important matter of pressing necessity.

Considering that throughout the country the Canadian Pension Commission has experienced unacceptable delays in reviewing the files of veterans; considering that conditions in Quebec are just as deplorable for our veterans; considering that cases were brought to my attention by veterans who are told by the Canadian Pension Commission: "It is impossible to specify when we will proceed with the consideration of your case" or still "We will not receive the medical data for your appeal before a year or more" I move, seconded by the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre (Mr. McKenzie):

That the Minister of Veterans Affairs give the necessary instructions to the Canadian Pension Commission, so that the review process of those cases can be speeded up in a spirit of brotherhood for those who gave much of themselves for our country.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the motion of the hon. member. Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 43, the introduction of such motion for debate requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.