

S.O. 26

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

• (1620)

MOTION TO ADJOURN UNDER S.O. 26

[English]

Madam Speaker: I have a notice under Standing Order 26 from the Hon. Member for Kindersley-Lloydminster (Mr. McKnight).

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LABOUR CONDITIONS

WEST COAST WORK STOPPAGE

Mr. Bill McKnight (Kindersley-Lloydminster): Madam Speaker, I seek leave to move that adjournment of the House under the provisions of Standing Order 26, seconded by the Hon. Member for Portage-Marquette (Mr. Mayer), to debate a specific and important matter requiring immediate consideration, namely the work stoppage at the Port of Vancouver and at other major ports on the west coast. This is the first opportunity that we have had since Parliament resumed to present this motion, arising because of a national emergency.

Since October 19, this work stoppage has had and continues to have a serious and negative impact on the economy of Canada. Yesterday and again today the Minister of Finance (Mr. Lalonde) said that the Government wished to wait until Monday before taking action on this national emergency. The cost is \$8 million a day to the grain producers alone in western Canada. This situation has now gone on for nine days. If on Monday the grain is not moving and the workers are not at work on the west coast, under our rules and procedures it will take another four to five days to act, at an additional cost of some \$75 million to \$80 million to the people of Canada.

Over 3,000 lay-offs have occurred to date in the railway, grain handling and other industrial sectors. Commodities such as coal, lumber, potash and sulphur are sitting idle on western Canada sidings. Lay-offs are occurring daily in these and other industries. Canada's \$6.4 billion grain export trade and our reputation as a reliable supplier is at stake. This matter is particularly urgent in light of the concern of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) over Canada's declining productivity and our failure to compete in foreign markets.

If you find this application acceptable for debate, Madam Speaker, I would so move the appropriate motion.

Madam Speaker: The problem is obviously an important one. The impact on the country, as the Hon. Member just stated, is very considerable. However, the Hon. Member knows, of course, that in allowing a debate under Standing

Order 26 the Speaker has to consider whether the matter might be brought into the House within a reasonable time.

I will tell the Hon. Member that this afternoon after Routine Proceedings a Bill will be called under which the Hon. Member may discuss this matter if he so wishes. Another Bill has been announced in the House relating to Canagrex which also would allow the Hon. Member to debate this question. Further, we all know that negotiations have been reopened. These negotiations could lead to a settlement. At any rate, I believe the Hon. Member does have opportunity to discuss this question under different proceedings. For that reason, I feel I cannot allow an emergency debate.

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QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. David Smith (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 1, 561, 775, 776, 777, 1,057, 1,248, 2,277, 2,444, 2,445, 2,542, 2,596, 2,624, 2,644, 2,719, 2,873, 3,735, 3,770, 3,773 to 3,796 inclusive, 3,798 to 3,808 inclusive, 3,810 to 3,828 inclusive, 4,150, 4,151, 4,187, 4,197, 4,257, 4,265, 4,266, 4,302, 4,304, 4,324, 4,326, 4,328, 4,352, 4,361, 4,363, 4,371, 4,373, 4,378, 4,380, 4,383, 4,389, 4,391, 4,392, 4,393, 4,395, 4,398, 4,400, 4,408, 4,409, 4,412, 4,418, 4,420, 4,424, 4,427, 4,434, 4,437 to 4,454 inclusive, 4,459, 4,460 and 4,466.

[Text]

CBC—MISS SUSAN REISLER

Question No. 1—**Mr. Cossitt:**

1. Is Miss Susan Reisler an employee of CBC and, if so, does she assist Mr. Mark Starowicz in producing the programme "Sunday Morning"?
2. Has she visited Cuba on one or more occasions to assist in the cutting of sugar cane and has she ever expressed admiration for Fidel Castro publicly?
3. Did she cover for the CBC the "Non-Alligned" Conference in Havana and, if so, who made the decision to send her including the names and job designations of any persons involved?

Mr. Jack Burghardt (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Communications): I am informed by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation as follows:

1. Ms. Susan Reisler is a CBC employee and assigned as Washington correspondent for CBC Radio News.
2. The CBC does not monitor or interfere with employees' opinions or off-duty activities if they do not conflict with the Corporation's established policies.
3. Ms. Reisler covered the conference of non-aligned nations in Cuba for the CBC. The details of her assignment are among those areas of internal management and administration which Parliament has not, as a matter of custom, required the CBC to provide. The background of this custom was explained in detail in the reply to question No. 2,530, May 22, 1975.