

Government Orders

Mr. Speaker: Shall all questions be allowed to stand?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

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MOTIONS FOR PAPERS

Mr. Albert Cooper (Parliamentary Secretary to Government House Leader): Mr. Speaker, would you be so kind as to call Notice of Motion for the Production of Papers No. P-14 standing in the name of the hon. member for Prince George—Bulkley Valley.

FORESTRY AGREEMENTS

That an Order of the House do issue for copies of the federal criteria for new forestry agreements with the provinces.

Mr. Cooper: Mr. Speaker, the release of these criteria prior to the completion of the federal-provincial agreements will be detrimental to the future conduct of the federal-provincial relations, and for this reason I therefore ask the hon. member to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Riis: Mr. Speaker, I think the appropriate move at this point would be to transfer for debate.

Mr. Speaker: Transferred for debate.

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• (1550)

MOTION TO ADJOURN UNDER S. O. 52**MEECH LAKE ACCORD**

Mr. David Berger (Saint-Henri—Westmount): Mr. Speaker, I gave you notice earlier today of my intention to ask leave at this time to move, pursuant to Standing Order 52, the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing an important matter requiring urgent consideration; namely, the Meech Lake Accord.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, Members of the Conservative Government and the Prime Minister himself keep repeating that the Meech Lake Accord is identical to the five demands of the Government of Quebec. It is the duty of the House, Mr. Speaker, to remind Canadians that these are two different things and to ask the first ministers to pursue their efforts to meet the demands of the Government of Quebec while respecting the national interest.

[*English*]

To say that it is Meech Lake or nothing else, take it or leave it, is unacceptable. Canadians want the first ministers to do their duty to the country. The first ministers should know that this House also wants them to do their duty to the country.

[*Translation*]

Just because a particular proposal has encountered some opposition does not meet the country will end. Indeed, a public opinion poll released today shows that most Canadians and most Quebecers believe that the Meech Lake Accord should be changed. In Quebec, 52 per cent are in favour of amending it, compared to 39 per cent who want it accepted as is.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, the first ministers must respect the will of the Canadian people and Members of this House should have the opportunity to debate this urgent matter. Thank you for your consideration, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER'S RULING

Mr. Speaker: I thank the Hon. Member for giving me advance notice of his request, under the circumstances. I listened carefully to the Hon. Member's request, but I must say that an emergency debate is certainly not appropriate at this time. Of course, this is a very important subject for all Canadians and I thank the Hon. Member for raising it.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*English*]

CRIMINAL CODE**MEASURE TO AMEND**

The House resumed from Tuesday, November 7, consideration of motion of Mr. Lewis that Bill C-43, an act respecting abortion, be read the second time and referred to a legislative committee.

Hon. Barbara McDougall (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, the last time I spoke in this place on the issue before us, I began by saying that I speak on behalf of those women who have been faced with bearing a child not of their choosing. Today, once again, I rise on behalf of those same women.