

Mr. Speaker: The motion proposed by the hon. member for Kootenay West requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There does not appear to be unanimous consent and the motion cannot be put.

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FOOD PRICES

SUGGESTION MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE SPEND ONLY
THREE DOLLARS A WEEK ON FOOD—REQUEST FOR
UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, in the light of a statement reported to have been made yesterday by a member of the cabinet who is in the House, even though he is not in his seat, I would move under the provisions of Standing Order 43, seconded by the hon. member for Assiniboia (Mr. Knight):

That the Minister of Agriculture be asked to feed himself on \$3 a week for a period of six months, and that at the end of that period he report to the House on the results thereof, if he is still here.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I am sure the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre will agree that the question in the motion is clearly too hypothetical to put to the House at this time.

Mr. Whelan: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. Last night, when I was interviewed by the reporter for the CBC, I said that a person had written to me and told me that he could live on that much money. I clearly stated to the reporter that I did not recommend this to anybody.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Whelan: I suggest that the hon. member who brought forward this motion possibly looks as if he could live on that much money.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, my leader says that I am standing proof that the minister is correct. I shall report on this six months from now, and six years from now as well.

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CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

SUGGESTED USE OF CANADIAN PACIFIC METHOD IN
PAYMENT OF BACK TIME—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS
CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. John Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 to ask the unanimous consent of the House to move a motion on a

Oral Questions

matter of pressing and urgent necessity. In view of the method used by the Canadian National Railways to compute back time owed to its employees as a result of the recent contract settlement imposed by this House, and in view of the fact that such computations lump the back time and regular pay in one cheque, thus causing an over assessment of income tax, I would move, seconded by the hon. member for Yorkton-Melville (Mr. Nystrom):

That the Minister of Transport immediately instruct the CNR to follow the method being used by the CPR in paying its employees.

Mr. Speaker: The motion submitted to the House under the terms of Standing Order 43 requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent and the motion cannot be put.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

SUGGESTED INQUIRY INTO ADMINISTRATION—
GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. J. R. Ellis (Hastings): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. As the Unemployment Insurance Commission has not stayed within its administration budget since 1969, and as in 1973 the budget will very likely double the original prediction tabled in this House, will the minister undertake a public inquiry into the situation?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): No, Mr. Speaker. The administrative budget of the Unemployment Insurance Commission for 1973 will be met.

Mr. Ellis: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Since the administration budget for the Unemployment Insurance Commission headquarters alone will triple this year, will the minister at least inquire into this aspect and make such inquiry public?

Mr. Andras: Mr. Speaker, these aspects of the Unemployment Insurance Commission's operation as, indeed, are all its operations, are fully detailed and fully available to members of the House through the inquiries of standing committees. That procedure will continue in future.

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON INTENTION TO INTRODUCE
LEGISLATION

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the minister. As Bill C-125 is now dead, and as the minister in the statement of January 17 referred to matters which