

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, June 22, 1977

The House met at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

PROPOSED INQUIRY INTO BACKGROUND OF MINISTER'S
STATEMENTS INTO BREAK-IN AT L'AGENCE DE PRESSE LIBRE—
MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Joe Clark (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, in light of the extraordinary debate and statements yesterday which unfortunately raised more questions than they answered about the integrity of Canadian government institutions, I seek the unanimous consent of the House of Commons to move a motion under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a question of urgent and pressing necessity. I move, seconded by the hon. member for Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo (Mr. Beatty):

That the committee of the privy council, by order, instruct the Chief Justice of Canada to appoint three justices from among the justices of the provincial superior courts, the Federal Court of Canada and the Supreme Court of Canada, who shall be constituted by the committee of the privy council to be commissioners under Part I of the Inquiries Act to inquire fully into all of the circumstances alluded to in the statement of the Solicitor General to the House of Commons on Friday, June 17, 1977 and in the statements by the Minister of Supply and Services in the House of Commons on Tuesday, June 21, 1977 and the interpretation placed on the doctrine of ministerial responsibility by the Minister of Supply and Services and any matter bearing upon or related thereto, and to consider such other matters as may appear to the commissioners to be relevant and to report fully thereon.

Mr. Speaker: The presentation of such a motion pursuant to Standing Order 43 can be done only with the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

SUGGESTED INQUIRY INTO SECURITY OPERATIONS—MOTION
UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, considering that the government has not admitted any political wrongdoing, I am not surprised that it did not agree to that motion. To us it was a completely acceptable motion under Standing Order 43. My motion under Standing Order 43 is not as broad in scope as the one proposed by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Clark), and in view of the government's expressed concern about this issue I hope hon. members opposite will agree to my motion.

● (1410)

Considering that the RCMP has taken part in a criminal break-in in Montreal and also that there was a persistent and successful attempt by the RCMP to conceal that fact for many years, and considering furthermore that other incidents involving the RCMP in other parts of Canada raise the question about the possibility of a continuing policy of illegal activity and concealment from political supervision, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles):

That this House instructs the government to establish forthwith a Royal Commission which would investigate security operations procedures of the RCMP and the process of accountability of the RCMP to the office of the Solicitor General.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Presentation of such a motion for debate pursuant to Standing Order 43 requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

GRANT TO NEIL LEDRAY WHILE STILL EMPLOYED BY
GOVERNMENT—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Otto Jelinek (High Park-Humber Valley): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 43, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. In view of the fact that a Mr. Neil Ledray, head of the Federal Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, municipal engineering section in Saskatoon, qualified for a \$90,000 DREE grant to establish his own business while still in the employ of the government, and who on previous occasions was instrumental in blocking attempts by a reputable firm in Toronto, C.M.S. Equipment Limited, to obtain similar assistance towards exactly the same type of business operation, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Hastings (Mr. Ellis):

That the Minister of Regional and Economic Expansion along with the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development take all appropriate steps to rectify this unfair practice involving quite obviously a conflict of interest by a government official.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Presentation for debate of such a motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.