

## Transport

● (1410)

[English]

## PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

## SUGGESTED REDUCTIONS IN EXPENDITURES—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

**Mr. Tom Cossitt (Leeds):** Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 to move a motion which is self-explanatory, seconded by the hon. member for Dauphin (Mr. Ritchie):

In view of the fact that the Prime Minister will be addressing the nation on television and radio this evening for purposes of outlining to the Canadian people the nature of the cuts in government spending in keeping with the government's declared policy of restraint, the House requests the Prime Minister to include in his remarks the setting of a personal example to the Canadian people by declaring a new year's resolution to curtail and cut the staff size and the expenses of the Prime Minister's and Privy Council offices to a reasonable level, to further demonstrate personal restraint by announcing reductions in the heavy expenditure from public funds at his official residence of 24 Sussex Drive and, finally, a statement that personal holidays in 1976 would be paid for by himself rather than continue poaching from the taxpayer's pocket.

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. Members:** No.

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## TRANSPORT

## PROPOSED COMMITTEE STUDY OF CRITERIA USED IN ASSESSING APPLICATION FOR GRADE SEPARATION PROJECTS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

**Mr. Stuart Leggatt (New Westminster):** Mr. Speaker, I also rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. In view of the sensitive and prompt response to the request for a grant to build an underpass at the St. Clair Avenue level crossing in Scarborough following the accident which caused nine fatalities, and in view of the fact that several other communities in this country are also in desperate need of approval of existing plans for similar construction, especially the city of New Westminster, where plans and applications have been on file since 1967, where continued injury and damage occur and where the greatest bottleneck in the lower mainland of British Columbia continues to foul up traffic to an incredible degree, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Sault Ste. Marie (Mr. Symes):

That the Minister of Transport immediately formalize existing agreements where the need has already been demonstrated, and further that the whole subject of rail crossings be forthwith referred to the Standing Committee on Transport for examination and reassessment of priorities and criteria presently employed by the government in making decisions on these matters.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Pursuant to Standing Order 43, the motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. Members:** No.

[Mr. Speaker.]

## ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

## ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

## REQUEST FOR STATEMENT BY MR. MARCHAND ON CO-OPERATION WITH FORCE

**Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the minister without portfolio. Would the minister welcome the opportunity to clarify his position with respect to co-operation with the RCMP in the production of records and documents and the giving of evidence and, if so, can he state briefly the situation at the present time with respect to his dealings with the force since I believe another officer and a commissioner had a meeting with the minister yesterday afternoon?

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister without Portfolio):** Mr. Speaker, the situation is crystal clear at this moment. We co-operate with the police. I think that now we only have to wait until they bring some results.

**Mr. MacKay:** Is it the minister's position that if the RCMP will specify the areas in which they are interested, he will let them have all the documents which they request relating to these areas and if the minister is unwilling to permit voluntarily the RCMP to remove large numbers of files, as they have done with respect to other persons, he would permit them to sort through any files they wish in his office?

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I am sure the hon. member realizes that his question is hypothetical.

## SKY SHOPS INVESTIGATION—REQUEST FOR ASSURANCE INVESTIGATION WILL PROCEED EXPEDITIOUSLY

**Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova):** My final supplementary is for the Solicitor General. Having heard the position of the Minister without Portfolio with regard to his willingness to co-operate with the RCMP, I should like to ask the Solicitor General if he can tell the House that as the responsible minister he is now satisfied that this investigation is able to proceed as fully and expeditiously as necessary?

**Hon. Warren Allmand (Solicitor General):** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

## SKY SHOPS INVESTIGATION—ALLEGED USE OF WARRANTS RELATING TO COLLECTION OF FUNDS FOR LIBERAL PARTY

**Mr. Ray Hnatyshyn (Saskatoon-Biggar):** Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is directed to the Solicitor General. On December 1, as recorded at page 9573 of *Hansard*, the Solicitor General said flatly, and I quote: "There is no investigation of Liberal party fund raising practices." I wonder how the Solicitor General squares that statement with the fact that certain of the warrants obtained by the RCMP in the course of their investigation refer very specifically to material—and again I am quoting—relating to the collection of moneys for the Liberal party.