

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, February 23, 1977

The House met at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

REQUEST FOR INQUIRY INTO DEATH OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF UGANDA—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, yesterday the President of the Privy Council, speaking on behalf of the government, indicated that a motion under Standing Order 43, which I had moved on Monday regarding the tragic Uganda situation, was not acceptable because of the fear that it might precipitate a debate. I am now prepared to assure the government House leader that the Official Opposition is prepared to pass this motion today without debate. We take this position in view of the continuing and growing dimension of the tragedy in Uganda. I would therefore, with the leave of the House, move the following motion under the terms of Standing Order 43, seconded by the hon. member for Egmont (Mr. MacDonald):

That this House condemn the government of Uganda for denying due process of law to its citizens and calls upon President Amin to permit an impartial inquiry by the Commonwealth or the United Nations into the circumstances surrounding the deaths of the Archbishop of Uganda and two Ugandan cabinet ministers.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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

Some hon. Members: No!

* * *

URBAN AFFAIRS

PROPOSED RECONSIDERATION OF DECISION NOT TO SUPPLY FUNDS FOR URBAN TRANSIT SYSTEMS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, I rise in accordance with Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity to move a motion which I believe, given recent news reports, will receive support from both sides of the House and which can be accepted without debate. In view of the announced intention of both the Canadian National and Canadian Pacific Railways to increase fares and drastically reduce commuter train services in the Montreal area, leaving

20,000 commuters without service, and in view of similar circumstances in other urban areas, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles):

That this House urge the government to reconsider its decision not to implement its 1974 election promise to provide \$290 million for urban transit systems in Canada.

Mr. Speaker: The motion can be presented only with unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: No!

* * *

[Translation]

PENITENTIARIES

REQUEST FOR JUDICIAL INQUIRY AT MILLHAVEN, QUEBEC AND NEW WESTMINSTER—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Jacques Lavoie (Hochelaga): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 to ask for the unanimous consent of the House to discuss a motion on an important matter of urgent and pressing necessity.

Following the visit to the penitentiaries and considering that there is a lot of violence and that the subcommittee has no judicial power and can only make recommendations, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta (Mr. Reynolds):

That the House give its unanimous consent to urge the Solicitor General to establish a judicial inquiry under the chairmanship of Mr. Justice Dutil or any other prominent person, considering that such an inquiry could eliminate both physical and mental violence in penitentiaries, and particularly in the C.D.C. in Quebec and in the institutions of Millhaven, Ontario, and New Westminster, British Columbia.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the motion of the hon. member. Under the provisions of Standing Order 43, this motion 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; therefore the motion cannot be put.