

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

TRADE

TEXTILES AND TEXTILE PRODUCTS

Hon. Jack H. Horner (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I would like to table, under Standing Order 41(2), a memorandum of understanding in relation to the export of certain textiles and textile products between the Government of Canada, the government of the Socialist Republic of Romania, the republic of the Philippines, the government of Hong Kong, the government of Poland, the republic of Korea, and the People's Republic of China. I also wish to table a statement of intent relating to exports from Taiwan to Canada.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS

ADDITIONAL SEATS FOR PRIME MINISTER AND LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

Mr. Ralph Stewart (Cochrane) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-464, respecting the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition and the House of Commons of Canada.

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Stewart (Cochrane): Mr. Speaker, this bill would provide two additional seats in the House of Commons, one for the Prime Minister and one for the Leader of the Opposition, without being defined by constituency. Since both leaders represent all Canada and conduct electoral campaigns in all parts of Canada, it is appropriate that their representation in this House not be limited to a single constituency.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

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BRITISH NORTH AMERICA ACT

AMENDMENT RESPECTING DURATION OF PARLIAMENTS

Mr. Ralph Stewart (Cochrane) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-45, respecting the duration of every House of Commons.

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Stewart (Cochrane): Mr. Speaker, several bills have been introduced with respect to fixed dates for elections. The advantages regarding stability and intelligent planning have been expressed time and time again in this House. This bill would differ inasmuch as it would specify that a general election would take place on the first Monday of June every four years. It also provides that new administrations take over on July 1, Canada's national day, by means of a special

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ceremonial sitting of both Houses on the lawns of parliament with the participation of Canadians from various aspects of Canadian life, both spiritual and temporal. Governments would be assured of remaining in office for four years without the chance of defeat as at present.

Mr. Alexander: I don't know about that.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

AMENDMENT TO ESTABLISH ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF PARLIAMENT HILL

Mr. Ralph Stewart (Cochrane) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-466, to establish the electoral district of Parliament Hill.

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Stewart (Cochrane): Mr. Speaker, this bill is similar in principle to the bill introduced by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles), but it differs in some respects. First, it would provide for a proper election of the Speaker by his peers which would be handled by the clerk in this chamber. Second, the election would take place during the final session of a parliament for the following parliament. This would permit an easy transition during the general election period, and it would permit the choice of a Speaker to be made by members who know the candidates, which would not be the case if done after a general election. Third, the Speaker would not run in general elections. Fourth—and this would be of some interest—each unsuccessful candidate for the office of Speaker could still submit himself to the general electorate in a constituency.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Cecil Smith (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. In relation to the bills with which we have just been dealing I believe the record should be clear that the motions were seconded by the hon. member for St. Jean (Mr. Smith) and not Mr. Smith (Churchill).

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[Translation]

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. Yvon Pinard (Parliamentary Secretary to President of Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: 1,162, 1,359, 1,439, 1,440, 1,441 and 1,609.