

S. O. 52

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

Mr. Jim Edwards (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons): Mr. Speaker, Question No. 315 will be answered today.

[Text]

Question No. 315—**Mrs. Mitchell:**

What is the total estimated cost of the special production in conjunction with the Just For Laughs organization, of a humorous history of Canada announced in April, 1992 and how much of this cost will be borne directly or indirectly by the government, and through which departments or agencies?

Hon. Henry Perrin Beatty (Minister of Communications): The special production in conjunction with the Just for Laughs organization is privately funded.

According to information available, Telefilm Canada, the National Film Board and the Department of Communications' Cultural Initiatives Program have not been solicited to participate directly or indirectly in the funding of this project, defined as a humorous history of Canada, which was set up in collaboration with the organization Just for Laughs.

[English]

Mr. Speaker: The questions as enumerated by the parliamentary secretary have been answered.

Mr. Edwards: Mr. Speaker, I ask that the remaining questions be allowed to stand.

Mr. Speaker: Shall the remaining questions stand?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

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MOTION TO ADJOURN UNDER S. O. 52

ATLANTIC FISHERY

Mr. Brian Tobin (Humber—St. Barbe—Baie Verte): Mr. Speaker, I ask leave pursuant to Standing Order 52 to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of a debate on a matter of great urgency, namely the crisis in the fishery in Newfoundland and Labrador and other parts of Atlantic Canada.

With the House of Commons about to recess for the summer in 24 hours, today presents the last opportunity for there to be a proper debate on the crisis in the fishery in Newfoundland and Labrador specifically, but also in Atlantic Canada.

I ask the Speaker to give consideration to this request so that an emergency debate may be held today.

Mr. David D. Stupich (Nanaimo—Cowichan): Mr. Speaker, I believe you realize this is on exactly the same issue. We believe this is an emergency situation with the collapse of the Atlantic cod fishery and the devastation, not just to the resource itself but to the people living in those areas, particularly Nova Scotia and Newfoundland, and the need for some emergency action to protect the resource itself and also to deal with the problems of the people living there.

SPEAKER'S RULING

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Humber—St. Barbe—Baie Verte some days ago, also the hon. member for Nanaimo—Cowichan, and subsequently 40 other members have indicated their wish that there be an emergency debate with respect to the situation resulting from the difficulties in the northern cod fishery.

• (1520)

I notice that the request is that these Canadians urgently require an indication of the kind of short-term and long-term strategies the government will employ, et cetera.

I have listened very carefully over several days to the questions and the answers. There is no question that the matter is of importance and concern to all members of the House.

After careful consideration, under the provisions of Standing Order 52, I am in a position to grant the request for an emergency debate today. However, the House is in a quandary as it adopted last June 9 an order to extend the hours of sitting until 10 p.m. In addition, earlier today the House agreed to a motion for time allocation on Bill C-86, an act to amend the Immigration Act and other acts in consequence thereof, which would require, if necessary, an interruption 15 minutes before the expiry of time provided for government business, namely 9.45 p.m.