

## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

### EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

#### PERU—ASSISTANCE TO EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS

**Mr. James E. Walker (Parliamentary Secretary to Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, the House is aware of the tragic situation now faced by the government and the people of Peru in the wake of the devastating earthquakes which spread through that country a few days ago. Since that time the Canadian government has been examining on an urgent basis the requests of the Peruvian government for relief assistance in an effort to determine the quickest and most effective way in which Canada could come to the assistance of the victims of what will certainly prove to be one of the greatest calamities of this century.

Hon. members will recall that the Prime Minister indicated in this chamber a day or so ago the immediate cash grant of \$25,000 to the Canadian Red Cross Society for relief purposes in Peru. The Prime Minister now wishes the House to know that the government has this afternoon authorized the immediate dispatch to Peru of six Canadian armed forces aircraft for use in ferrying relief supplies into the affected areas. Five of these aircraft are of the Caribou variety designed for operation in challenging airstrip conditions. The other is a Hercules transport which will act as a mother-ship for the navigational assistance of the Caribou. These aircraft will depart from their bases in Canada during the course of the evening and will be available to the Peruvian authorities immediately on their arrival in that country early next week. The government is continuing its examination of other means by which it can come to the assistance of the earthquake victims.

I wish to thank hon. members, Mr. Speaker, for their courtesy in permitting me to revert to motions to make this statement on behalf of the Prime Minister.

#### Assistance to Peruvian Earthquake Victims

**Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque):** Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the government for seeking practical means of expressing in a practical way the humanitarian feelings of the people of Canada for the citizens of Peru who have suffered this catastrophe. I think that the Canadian people will be pleased to know that some of our armed forces aircraft have been dispatched to render aid in this situation.

• (5:00 p.m.)

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, the members of this party also welcome the statement that has just been made. I must say that we felt a bit embarrassed the other day when it was announced that only \$25,000 was being given. This amount seemed terribly small in the wake of the tremendous suffering in Peru. We realize now that that was only an immediate response. As the seriousness of the situation was impressed upon the government, the government realized that the Canadian people wanted to do everything they could to come to the assistance of these people in Peru. This action has our support. The government will also have our support of any further steps it may take to help these unfortunate people.

### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to confirm the business for next week. Monday will be an opposition allotted day. On Tuesday we will call first Government Order 87, third reading of Bill C-202 with respect to Arctic waters pollution prevention. This will be followed immediately by the completion of second reading and committee stage of Government Order 98, Bill C-215 with regard to the Elections Act. On Wednesday we hope to complete the Elections Act bill. On Thursday in any event we will call Government Order 6, Bill C-4 regarding the Corporations Act.

At 5 p.m. the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.