

Proceedings on Adjournment Motion

Mr. R. J. Orange (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): The hon. member for Kootenay West (Mr. Harding) is a member of the Energy, Mines and Resources Committee. I hope he speaks for his party when he says that the federal jurisdiction in relation to water management and water pollution must become the concern of Canadians. I hope when the legislation dealing with the Canada water act is introduced into the House of Commons that, apart from the details of the act, we will be able to rely on hon. members across the way for their full and complete support in the event that there are jurisdictional problems.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Bring it in tomorrow.

Mr. Orange: We could bring it in tomorrow, but we would like your support in a way that is meaningful for Canada.

Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Why not do something with the legislation you now have? Why are you sitting around?

Mr. Orange: I think the hon. member is aware of the jurisdictional problem. He was once the premier of a province. He recognizes the problems connected with introducing legislation. He should recognize also the problems of jurisdiction between the province and the municipalities. What we are faced with here, at the moment, is the important provincial problem.

We have a report that 150,000 gallons of acid were dumped into Hamilton Bay by the Steel Company of Canada. This has never been confirmed by the Ontario Water Resources Commission or any other source. This happened a month ago. With the greatest of respect to the hon. member, he really has not brought this before the house since that time. However, that is not the point.

The point is that we, as federal legislators, should recognize that water pollution and water management are major problems in this country. Please recognize that it takes a little bit of time to get organized. We recognize that there are jurisdictional problems.

Mr. Harding: Did you investigate it?

Mr. Orange: We investigated this.

Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): What did you find?

Mr. Orange: Never mind. We have jurisdictional problems. I look to opposition members

for support, particularly those who feel so hearty these days because they have some representation in the province of Manitoba. I wish to congratulate the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) for recognizing the Manitoba centennial today. We need this support for which I am asking in order to convince the people of Canada that water management and pollution affect the quality of life of all people in Canada. As the result of the major policy statement tonight by the hon. member for Kootenay West (Mr. Harding), I assume we have that support.

SENIOR CIVIL SERVANTS—DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants): Mr. Speaker, on June 11 I asked the following question as recorded at page 9997 of *Hansard*:

Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Finance. Does the minister intend to expose senior civil servants in his department to the difficulties and frustrations of the marketplace, as suggested by the hon. member for Trinity (Mr. Hellyer)?

My question arose from a speech the hon. member for Trinity (Mr. Hellyer) made, I believe, in Toronto on June 11 to some cost accountants. Because of the hon. member's recent association with the ministry, I thought it might be relevant to ask that question of the Minister of Finance (Mr. Benson). At that time Mr. Speaker said:

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The question is rather mysterious, as far as the chair is concerned. Perhaps it might be considered in the hour of mystery some time after ten o'clock.

Since we have had some mysterious answers here this evening, I suggest I am not out of place in bringing this question before this huge assembly at this time. One aspect of the suggestion made by the former minister of transport was that senior civil servants should perhaps have a different type of training before assuming their positions. From time to time we hear rumbles that the top level of the public service should rise and fall with the fortunes of government, similar to what happens in the United States where all the top people are replaced when a new president assumes office.

● (10:20 p.m.)

While I have raised only one question of mystery, upon which I hope the Parliamentary Secretary will throw some light, concerning whether the member for Trinity