External Affairs

PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL BROILER MARKETING BOARD—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I rise under Standing Order 43 to ask for the unanimous consent of the House to move a motion.

Considering the unfair competition against Canadian broiler producers these last three years through low price imports which increased by 671 per cent from 1974 to 1976, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Elgin (Mr. Wise):

That the House unanimously give the government leave to establish immediately a national broiler marketing board to ensure Canadian consumers the presence of this food in large quantities and at a stable and reasonable price, instead of having to trust uncertain imports without any guarantee of stability, which will inevitably happen if Canadian broiler producers are on the verge of bankruptcy.

Some hon. Members: This matter is settled.

Mr. La Salle: If it is settled, I am pleased about it, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The House has heard the terms of the hon. member's motion. Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 43, such motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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[English]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

SUGGESTION GOVERNMENT REQUEST HUNGARY TO ALLOW REUNIFICATION OF GECZI FAMILY—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Otto Jelinek (High Park-Humber Valley): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity concerning the reunification of a Canadian family. In light of the federal government's lack of action in reuniting Mr. and Mrs. Geczi with three children who are now being retained against their will by Hungarian authorities behind the iron curtain, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Edmonton Centre (Mr. Paproski):

That this House urges the federal government and the Department of External Affairs to express to the Hungarian government the fact that it has no right to decertify Canadian citizens or to violate the Helsinki accords and to demand the immediate reunification of the Geczi family.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Such a motion can be presented only with the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No. [Mr. Speaker.]

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

NEGOTIATIONS WITH UNITED STATES TO DIVERT OIL TANKERS FROM CHERRY POINT TO PORT ANGELES AND COMPENSATION FOR OIL SPILLS

Mr. Benno Friesen (Surrey-White Rock): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Secretary of State for External Affairs, and it concerns the news that with the collapse of the Kitimat pipeline application we can expect nearly all of the oil to pass by the Queen Charlottes and through the Strait of Juan de Fuca and Georgia Strait, a massive environmental threat, in return for no additions to our energy supplies. In view of the fact that the Cherry Point refinery in Washington already has one oil spill to its credit, and for the benefit of the city of White Rock, will the minister tell the House whether he intends to open discussions with the United States with a view to reducing environmental risks by bringing in oil to Port Angeles, a far safer alternative to Cherry Point?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, with regard to the announcement yesterday, there has not been an application filed. Therefore, other than the declared intentions of the operators we do not know precisely what kind of proposal is going to be put forward. However, presumably the hon. member's conclusion is correct in the sense that it would probably add to the amount of traffic, but I do not know with certainty. I believe the hon. member referred to opening discussions with the United States. We have had ongoing discussions with the United States on the whole question of anti-pollution measures and control measures on the west coast. We have also talked about alternative locations and this will obviously make it all the more important that we keep those talks going and elevate them to emphasize what is clearly in the view of the hon. member and myself an increasingly important subject, given yesterday's developments.

Mr. Friesen: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. As the minister knows, those who were proposing the Kitimat route now support the Trans-Mountain route and therefore considerable weight is added to that application. In view of the fact that no mutual compensation agreement over the question of oil pollution has yet been concluded, even though those negotiations have been going on for sometime, will the minister tell the House whether he has taken up the point referred to by the hon. member for Fraser Valley West about a month ago? Is the minister now in a position to announce shortly, interim agreements for compensation measures to protect the livelihood and property of those threatened by the vastly increased possibility of oil pollution? I believe the question was originally addressed to the Prime Minister but I am sure the minister has been apprised of it.

Mr. Jamieson: Mr. Speaker, I am aware of it but because the issue is so important I would prefer not to rely upon my memory to give the hon. member a specific answer today. If he