Medical Research

the attempt of Steven Badger, the Australian swimmer, to obtain landed immigrant status in order to enable him to represent Canada at this summer's Olympic Games. In view of the fact that this exceptional swimmer would strongly boost our nation's much needed chances at the games, and because his application was made from abroad sometime ago, in accordance with the laws, and keeping in mind as well the fact that the minister has granted within the last two years alone over 18,000 ministerial permits to applicants who did not qualify for landed immigrant status, many of them to shady and corrupt characters like General Quang, because the IOC has not as yet approved the so-called commonwealth switch and time is quickly running out, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Provencher (Mr. Epp):

That this House instruct the Minister of Immigration to utilize his department's policy in respect to special consideration regarding cases of exceptional merit, under which Steven Badger unquestionably qualifies, and grant him the landed immigrant status which he so desperately needs by May 31 of this year in order to qualify for and strengthen our Olympic team.

Mr. Speaker: Standing Order 43 requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

• (1410)

HEALTH

REQUEST FOR INCREASED FUNDS FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Bruce Halliday (Oxford): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. In view of the national significance of the large gathering here in Ottawa today of members of the newly formed group of "Canadians for Health Research", comprising representatives of both professional and voluntary health groups as well as other lay organizations, and in view of the recent announcement by the Minister of National Health and Welfare that he intends to increase the budget of the Medical Research Council by only \$2 million, thereby leaving it about \$4 million short of funds sufficient to continue operation at the same level as last year; I move, seconded by the hon. member for Athabasca (Mr. Yewchuk):

That this House urge the government to recognize both the need for restraint and the need for medical research by giving immediate reconsideration to funding the Medical Research Council to a level which will maintain its activities on a par with those of the past year.

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to Standing Order 43, this motion can be presented for debate only with the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: Then the motion cannot be put. [Mr. Jelinek.]

HARBOURS

RESTRUCTURING OF HARBOURS BOARD JEOPARDIZING PORT OF CHURCHILL—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Cecil Smith (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of national concern. Last year, a task force was formed by the Ministry of Transport to bring forth recommendations for the restructuring of the National Harbours Board. Bearing in mind that the report of this task force has not, as yet been finalized, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Swift Current-Maple Creek (Mr. Hamilton):

That the minister advise this House why certain proposals or recommendations contained in the draft report are now being implemented at a time of year when such restructuring could place the important Churchill shipping season in jeopardy.

Mr. Speaker: Such a motion can be presented pursuant to Standing Order 43 only with the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: No.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

SUPPLY AND SERVICES

REQUEST FOR TABLING OF LOCKHEED CONTRACT—AMOUNT OF GOVERNMENT'S LIABILITY TO LOCKHEED

Mr. Allan B. McKinnon (Victoria): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Supply and Services. Since the Lockheed Orion fiasco may already have cost the Canadian taxpayer over \$34 million, would the hon. gentleman now table the unsigned contract with Lockheed that got us into this mess?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Minister of Supply and Services): Mr. Speaker, of course I find it very difficult to table in the House a document which has no meaning whatsoever. I know that some members of the opposition did refer to documents which have never been tabled in the House. The document in question has not been signed by the parties, and as such it simply does not exist, legally speaking.

[English]

Mr. McKinnon: Well, Mr. Speaker, the document itself may be meaningless as far as a contract is concerned, but we are interested in the procedures which led the government into this mess. As the minister has told us he was willing to table this contract once it had been signed we are now forced to the conclusion that he has something to hide. In any event, may I ask him this question: Since an array of figures is being thrown around as to how much this affair may have cost us, will the minister tell the House how much money has been spent by the government and what the government liability to the Lockheed Corporation might ultimately be?