HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, January 17, 1973

The House met at 2 p.m.

THE PRIME MINISTER

EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY ON DEATH OF HIS MOTHER

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister is not in his place today. I simply rise, not for the purpose of attempting any eulogy of the Prime Minister's mother, which would be very presumptuous of me, but simply to express on behalf of my colleagues and myself, though realizing that there is nothing of great help one can say in these circumstances, the deepest sympathy with the Prime Minister in the death of his mother.

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, may I just as briefly express on behalf of my colleagues and myself our deepest sympathy to the Prime Minister on the death of his mother. I had occasion once to watch the Prime Minister on television and to learn with what affection and respect he regarded his mother. Even though most of us did not have the opportunity of meeting her when she was alive, we feel deeply for the Prime Minister.

[Translation]

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and myself join the Leader of the Official Opposition and the leader of the New Democratic Party in extending to the right hon. Prime Minister our most sincere sympathy on the occasion of the death of his mother. We all know that the loss of a mother is a heavy one. And it is so for a Prime Minister. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, we express our sincere sympathy to the right hon. Prime Minister and to all members of the Trudeau family.

[English]

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, as Acting Prime Minister may I thank the leaders of the other parties for their expressions of sympathy on the bereavement of the Prime Minister and associate members on this side of the House with those sentiments. I will undertake to see that these expressions of sympathy from all quarters of the House are conveyed to the Prime Minister.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS

TABLING OF LETTER SENT BY PRIME MINISTER TO PREMIERS PROPOSING DATES FOR FIRST MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, under Standing Order 41(2) I should like to table in English and in French copies of the letter sent by the Prime Minister to the premiers proposing dates for a federal-provincial conference of first ministers.

FINANCE

TABLING OF REPORTS BY SUPERINTENDENT OF INSURANCE ON SMALL LOANS COMPANIES AND MONEY LENDERS AND ON CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT SOCIETIES

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 41(2), I should like to table one copy of the report of the Superintendent of Insurance for Canada on small loans companies and money lenders for the year ended December 31, 1971; and one copy of the report of the Superintendent of Insurance for Canada on co-operative credit societies.

MEETING OF FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL MINISTERS— TABLING OF PROPOSED AGENDA

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I should also like to table with the consent of the House the proposed agenda, as it stands at the moment subject to ratification by the provincial ministers, of the conference beginning tomorrow between myself and the provincial ministers of finance, particularly pursuant to the request of the Leader of the Opposition.

POST OFFICE

NEGOTIATIONS TO SETTLE DISPUTE WITH EMPLOYEES—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I wish to move a motion under the provisions of Standing Order 43 in order to bring before the House a question of urgent public importance. I refer to the fact that negotiations to resolve the dispute between the postal workers and the Treasury Board have broken down. The postal workers have accepted the majority report of the conciliation board, but the Treasury Board now appears to be