

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, June 8, 1978

The House met at 2 p.m.

● (1407)

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD

CANADA'S PARTICIPATION IN PROGRAM—MOTION UNDER
S.O. 43

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. The year 1979 has been designated by the United Nations as the International Year of the Child, a fact which has been virtually ignored by this government whereas 70 other countries have set up commissions for this very purpose. This marks the twentieth anniversary of the declaration of the rights of children by the United Nations, to which Canada was a signatory. I, therefore, move, seconded by the hon. member for Edmonton-Strathcona (Mr. Roche):

That this House directs the Minister of National Health and Welfare to make a statement in this House before the adjournment on Canada's intentions with respect to the International Year of the Child and what plans, if any, the government has under way to participate with the provinces in recognizing and implementing the principles embodied in the United Nations' declaration.

Mr. Speaker: The presentation of such a motion for debate, pursuant to Standing Order 43, can be done only with unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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FITNESS AND AMATEUR SPORT

ANNUAL SOFTBALL GAME BETWEEN MPs AND PRESS
GALLERY—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, I wish to move a motion which I consider very urgent. I think all members of the House, including Your Honour, will agree with it. I am sure Your Honour will be pleased to learn that last evening, in the annual ballgame between members of parliament and the press gallery, your team clobbered the fourth estate by a score of ten to six.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Nystrom: This happened despite the fact that the press gallery had been in vigorous training since early spring and members of parliament had not played in over a year. In view of our very high esteem for members of the press gallery and our concern about the example that they must set for all of Canada, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Selkirk (Mr. Whiteway) and the hon. member for Kenora-Rainy River (Mr. Reid):

That this House instruct the Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport) to summon immediately all her top advisers from across the land for the purpose of devising a foolproof emergency program with the very difficult, but not impossible, objective of upgrading the fitness of the average 30-year old press gallery member to that of the average 60-year old member of parliament.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Leeds.

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FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS

QUEBEC GRANT TO ALLEGED COMMUNIST-FRONT
ORGANIZATION—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Tom Cossitt (Leeds): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgency. If all hon. members will listen carefully, I think they will agree that this motion deserves the support of both sides of the House. It is in relation to a grant in the amount of \$51,000 being given by the province of Quebec under the authority of Claude Morin, provincial minister of intergovernmental affairs, to an organization calling itself The Preparatory Committee of Canada for the Eleventh World Festival of Youth and Students, Box 99, Station V, Toronto. The festival is to be held in Havana, Cuba, July 28 to August 5, and the agenda proclaims in newsletter No. 5 the slogan "Anti-imperialist solidarity, peace and friendship" and announces youth delegates will be told methods of carrying out profound "political transformations" in their home countries. I, therefore, move, seconded by the hon. member for Hastings (Mr. Ellis):

That this House registers its disapproval of such a reprehensible grant by the government of Quebec to an apparent communist-front organization, and strongly urges the Quebec government to cancel immediately any portion of the grant not yet paid and, finally, requests the Premier of Quebec to order an end to any Quebec support—

Mr. Rodriguez: No.

Mr. Cossitt: If the hon. member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Rodriguez) would stop saying "No", I might be able to finish this motion. I know where his sympathies lie.

—for organizations which would seek to bring or advocate separation in Canada by means other than the democratic process.