LABOUR RELATIONS

ACTION TAKEN BY ONTARIO HOSPITAL BOARDS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Hon. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Madam Speaker, under the provisions of Standing Order 43, and seconded by the hon. member for Broadview-Greenwood (Mr. Rae), I move:

That this House deplores the vindictive action of a number of Ontario hospital boards in suspending 2,500 hospital workers and firing 28 unionists, an action completely out of line with modern management labour practices and one that is inimical to the provision of health services, and that this House calls for the immediate reinstatement of all of these workers.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

EL SALVADOR—POSSIBLE UNITED STATES MILITARY INTERVENTION—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Walter McLean (Waterloo): Madam Speaker, in light of reports from the United States Congress that it now has bipartisan support for increased military aid to El Salvador; in light of the statement by Senator Charles Percy, chairman of the Senate foreign relations committee, that he will not rule out the use of United States troops in El Salvador; and since Canada is a signatory to the United Nations Human Rights Declaration and a partner with Mexico in seeking non-military means to resolve the situation in El Salvador, I move, seconded by the hon. member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath):

That this House direct the Prime Minister, during his meetings with President Reagan, to explore every opportunity of settlement of the El Salvador situation without involving military intervention by the United States armed forces.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

• (1115)

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

NATIONAL ENERGY PROGRAM

QUERY RESPECTING MINISTER'S MEETING WITH AFFECTED INDUSTRIES

Mr. Harvie Andre (Calgary Centre): Madam Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

Oral Questions

In a submission to the National Energy Board last week major consumers of energy, such as the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association, the Canadian Institute of Public Real Estate Companies, and a number of other associations stated they recognize that the number one problem with the government's National Energy Program is that it jeopardizes our security of supply. They also made the point that the industries they represent are being seriously hurt by the National Energy Program in two ways. The first is, because of the slowdown in exploration and development of the major projects, which is hurting them now and will hurt them more as the year progresses. Second, they say that their future security of supply is in jeopardy with serious consequences for industry.

Since the minister is responsible for the industries represented by these associations, has he had a meeting with these industries to determine first-hand their concern so that he might better represent their interests around the cabinet table when changes in the energy program are discussed?

Hon. Herb Gray (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Madam Speaker, last week I met with a delegation from the Canadian Manufacturers' Association and reviewed this aspect with them, along with a number of other aspects. I am satisfied the program we have put forward is directed in a way which is in the best interests of the Canadian manufacturing sector and Canadians generally, strengthening our industrial base and developing self-sufficiency in energy. If there is to be further adjustment in this area I think that while we are certainly ready to have discussions, if there is a slowdown in activity one must also look for the appropriate response from the government of Alberta, as the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources has pointed out.

Mr. Andre: Madam Speaker, the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, along with the Minister of Finance and the minister of energy, basically dismisses the entire Canadian business community which says that this program is damaging, and damaging now. It is the view of the associations which represent industries primarily located in Ontario and Quebec that the economies of those provinces will be seriously hurt this year as a result of the National Energy Program and that they will be put in serious jeopardy in the future because security of supply will not be met by this program. Has the minister at least discussed this possibility with his counterparts in the governments of Quebec and Ontario to ascertain if, in fact, there are other people besides himself who share the view that the entire industry is wrong? Will he take the initiative to discuss this with his counterpart in the province of Ontario so that he may be apprised of the real situation?

Mr. Gray: Madam Speaker, I am certainly looking very carefully at what the Canadian Manufacturers' Association has said. I am always ready to have an exchange of views on these matters with my provincial counterparts, although our counterpart in Ontario is rather busy right now in another area of activity.