

This announcement which, I think, had been expected for quite some time will doubtless constitute an incentive for all members of our forces in addition to filling them with pride for receiving an award from their country.

Until now, the decoration which had been awarded came from a foreign country, and only a handful of Canadian servicemen or civilians could hope for their galantry being recognized by their country.

We dare hope that this decoration which the right hon. Prime Minister has just announced will be awarded not only to servicemen who deserve it fairly often through their galantry on the line of service in time of war, but also to many deserving civilians in the accomplishment of their duties. I think particularly of policemen and firemen, as well as a number of persons who, at one time or another, are called by their duties to take actions which deserve to be recognized.

Given the decorations that our country proposes to grant, I hope that a greater number of worthy persons will see their heroic deeds recognized.

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[English]

INDIAN AFFAIRS

PAYMENT OF EXPENSES OF DELEGATION—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I rise pursuant to Standing Order 43 to move a motion because of urgent and pressing necessity. That necessity is occasioned by the arrival yesterday in Ottawa of a committee of native Indian people from Thunder Bay who came here at their own expense as a result of an agreement that they would be able to have a meeting yesterday afternoon at five o'clock with the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Mr. Chrétien). That meeting did not proceed because of an error on the part of the department. Therefore I seek the unanimous consent of the House to move, seconded by the hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Barnett):

That this House hereby authorizes the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development to reimburse the committee of Indian people under the joint leadership of Mrs. Monica Turner, chairman of the Ontario Native Women's Association and Mr. Bill Sault of the Treaty Research Department of the Union of Ontario Indians, who travelled from Thunder Bay to Ottawa to meet with the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and who incurred expenses of a personal nature for that meeting which could not take place because of an error within the said department.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member might recognize that this is a motion which should perhaps have been preceded by a Royal recommendation. In any event, so as not to get involved in this rather subtle aspect of the matter, I would invite hon. members to indicate whether there is unanimous consent to the motion proposed by the hon. member.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Atlantic Region Freight Rates

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent and the hon. member's motion cannot be put at this time.

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TRANSPORT

ATLANTIC REGION FREIGHT RATES—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 in connection with a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. It concerns the desperate situation confronting firms in the Atlantic region as a result of inordinately high freight rates. In view of the fact that many regional economic development schemes are thwarted ultimately by these transportation costs, and in view of the fact that some maritime firms are being pushed to the brink of survival, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Vegreville (Mr. Mazankowski):

That the entire matter of freight rates be referred to the Standing Committee on Transportation for immediate review.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member's motion is proposed under the terms of Standing Order 43 and requires unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent and the motion cannot be put.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, I had intended to present the first report of the Standing Committee on Regional Development but I missed the call for presentation of reports. May I have permission to do so now?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is seeking the unanimous consent of the House to revert to the presentation of committee reports. Is there such consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: I recognized at least one "no". I thought it was the hon. member for St. Boniface. If there is not unanimous consent, we cannot revert to the presentation of committee reports.

An hon. Member: Stay awake!

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

DESIGNATION OF OPPOSITION DAYS

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I wish to advise the House that tomorrow and Friday have been designated as opposition days.