

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, March 4, 1970

The House met at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[Translation]

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

FINANCE, TRADE AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Fifteenth report of Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs, in French and in English—Mr. Clermont.

[English]

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Second report of Standing Committee on Public Accounts—Mr. Hales.

[Editor's Note: For text of above reports, see today's Votes and Proceedings.]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

NEGOTIATIONS RESPECTING IMPORTS OF COTTON YARN FROM MEXICO

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I should like to table copies in English and French of a press release on the outcome of negotiations on imports of cotton yarn from Mexico.

IMMIGRATION

APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONER TO INQUIRE INTO DEPORTATION OF DESERTERS FROM U.S. ARMED FORCES

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to table a copy of the Order in Council appointing His Honour Judge Ernest J. C. Stewart a commissioner under Part II of the Inquiries Act to inquire into and report upon the circumstances in which three persons who entered Canada from the United States departed from Canada.

GRAIN

WHEAT—ACREAGE REDUCTION PROGRAM— REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. D. R. Gundlock (Lethbridge): Mr. Speaker, under Standing Order 43 I ask for

the unanimous consent of the House to put the following motion:

That the program proposed by the government and announced last Friday by the Minister without Portfolio from Saskatchewan of payments to western farmers for taking farm land out of production be referred to the Standing Committee on Agriculture, and the said committee be requested to give this matter immediate and prior attention and report to the House.

Since last Friday and the announcement of this program, a great many protests have been received, including 37 telegrams which I received today. The protests include one from the Little Bow Association of Municipalities which covers all of southern Alberta. The emergency debate held last Monday indicates that the government has not thought the matter through clearly, as the ministers who participated were unable to deal with the many practical and urgent questions raised.

As tens of thousands of farmers in western Canada need to be informed of these details it is, therefore, imperative that the committee have the opportunity to make an immediate inquiry and to examine the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister without Portfolio and their officials.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. members know that this motion cannot be put at this time without the unanimous consent of the House. Is there such unanimity?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is no unanimity and therefore the motion cannot be put at this time.

Mr. Woolliams: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, it is obvious that the Liberals objected.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

REQUEST BY U.S. LABOUR DEPARTMENT FOR INFORMATION ON ELECTION OF INTERNA- TIONAL OFFICERS OF UNITED MINE WORK- ERS—RESPONSE OF CANADIAN GOVERNMENT

Hon. Bryce Mackasey (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, a note dated February 21, 1970, was delivered to the government of Canada from the United States Embassy in Ottawa,