

*Unemployment*

**Hon. Gordon Churchill (Minister of Trade and Commerce):** An interim payment was not made on wheat to farmers in December 1956, under the late and unlamented administration.

**LABOUR CONDITIONS****UNEMPLOYMENT—MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT UNDER STANDING ORDER 26**

**Mr. T. S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni):** Mr. Speaker, before you recognized the hon. member for Melville I was on my feet to ask leave, seconded by the hon. member for Regina City, to move the adjournment of the house under standing order 26 for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely the alarming unemployment situation now facing this country, as revealed yesterday by the Minister of Labour, and the need for immediate action to provide employment and alleviate the distress being suffered by a growing number of unemployed Canadians and their families.

**Hon. Howard C. Green (Minister of Public Works):** Mr. Speaker, may I submit to Your Honour that this motion is out of order. Under the provisions of standing order 26, subsection 1, a motion to adjourn the house such as the one now put before Your Honour by the hon. member for Comox-Alberni must be made after the ordinary daily routine of business. We have already passed that stage—

**Some hon. Members:** No, no.

**Mr. Green:**—and are down to orders of the day. I submit that this motion is not in order.

**Mr. Speaker:** I had not called orders of the day. I would be glad to hear the minister as to the urgency of the motion, as he appreciates that whether or not the house should interrupt its other work to discuss this matter depends on the urgency of debate. If he has anything to say on that subject I would be glad to hear him. Does any other hon. member wish to address himself to this matter before I decide whether or not this question should be submitted to the house?

**Hon. Donald M. Fleming (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, I do not know whether or not you have determined the point of order which was raised by the leader of the house, but I should like to submit to you, before you dismiss the point he has raised, if that is your intention, that this point has been before the house on other occasions. It has been determined by your predecessors that if an hon. member waits until the Speaker has called the orders of the day, then he is too late.

[Mr. Harrison.]

**An hon. Member:** He was up.

**Mr. Fleming:** The point has been well established for years that an hon. member must make such a motion before members begin to ask their questions on orders of the day. The hon. member may have been on his feet at the time, but the floor was given to another hon. member and that other hon. member proceeded to ask a question on the orders of the day. Under those circumstances, Mr. Speaker, while the hon. member may regret that you did not see him first or give him the floor first, the fact remains that under the decisions of your predecessors it is now too late for the hon. member to introduce his motion.

Now, as to whether or not the motion, had it been in order and on time, should be considered, may I draw to your attention the well established rule that what is of concern in such a motion is not the urgency of the particular matter but the urgency of debate. This subject is not new in the consideration of the house. At this session it has been discussed on not a few occasions. In so far as the opportunity for early debate is concerned, may I draw your attention to the fact that on Monday next, as has been indicated, it is the intention of the government to introduce a supply motion.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** When was that indicated?

**Mr. Fleming:** My hon. friend is well aware of the fact that it was the intention of the government to introduce a supply motion next Monday. Mention was made of this in the house a few days ago. There is one supply motion left before the quota established by the rules for the present session is exhausted. I do not think my friend is going to convince anybody by feigning ignorance of the fact it was the intention of the government to introduce a supply motion next Monday. Whatever is in order amongst the matters any hon. member wishes to introduce can be introduced on that occasion, if not precluded by decisions made by the house at an earlier stage in the present session.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, it cannot be argued seriously today that there is urgency of debate attached to this issue today. There will be ample opportunity, if the subject is in order for discussion at this session, for it to be introduced on Monday next.

**Mr. M. J. Coldwell (Rosetown-Biggar):** May I just say a word. In so far as rising at the right time is concerned, I point out to the minister, and I am sure Your Honour would understand this point, that when the right hon. member for Melville rose to speak I was under the impression, as I am sure every