

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, May 20, 1976

The House met at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

REQUEST THAT SOLICITOR GENERAL TABLE LETTER TO PAROLE BOARD CONCERNING REINSTATEMENT OF MR. MARCHAND'S DRIVER'S LICENCE—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Ray Hnatyshyn (Saskatoon-Biggar): I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity under the provisions of Standing Order 43. The Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand) has admitted today in the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs that he has personally communicated with the chairman of the National Parole Board concerning a proposed application by the Minister of the Environment to suspend or revoke a prohibition from driving. In order that there be no question that the Solicitor General's actions would be subject to the interpretation of representations on behalf of a cabinet colleague, to a board under the jurisdiction of the Solicitor General, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Regina East (Mr. Balfour):

That this House direct the Solicitor General to immediately table all documents relating to the Solicitor General's communications with the National Parole Board concerning the conviction of the Minister of the Environment and make a statement on motions concerning details of the circumstances of this matter.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. A motion of this sort can be presented only with the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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OLD AGE SECURITY ACT

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT TO PROVIDE FOR PAYMENT OF SPOUSE'S ALLOWANCE TO WIDOWS, SPINSTERS, WIDOWERS AND BACHELORS BETWEEN 60 AND 65—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I ask leave to present a motion under Standing Order 43. It relates to a matter which is even more urgent than it was the last time I made this proposal to the House. I move, seconded by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas):

That this House urges the government to introduce without delay an amendment to the Old Age Security Act to provide for the spouse's allowance which is paid thereunder to be paid also to widows, spinsters, widowers and bachelors between the ages of 60 and 65, on the basis of need or preferably on the basis of their being out of the labour market.

Mr. Speaker: Such a motion can be presented only with the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION OF CONFLICTING STATEMENTS ABOUT DEFRAUDING OF COMMISSION—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Tom Cossitt (Leeds): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 to seek leave of the House to move, seconded by the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre (Mr. McKenzie):

That the Minister of Manpower and Immigration and the Solicitor General be required to give an immediate explanation of the obvious discrepancies between the admission made by the Minister of Manpower yesterday that the defrauding of the Unemployment Insurance Commission was a serious situation because of its size and that it was more than an ordinary problem and the public statement made by a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police that the matter is not as serious as stated by the minister, further that the Minister of Manpower and Immigration should explain to the House the reasons why certain details of an investigation being conducted by the Unemployment Insurance Commission parallel to the RCMP investigation have apparently been withheld from the RCMP, that the House receive immediate information as to whether this was done under pressure of political considerations to avoid scandal to the government and, finally, that a judicial inquiry be immediately ordered into the entire operations of the UIC with full powers to bring out all details of corruption and to make recommendations for reforming the commission.

Mr. Speaker: Such a motion can only be presented with the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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IMMIGRATION

PROPOSAL TO GRANT LANDED IMMIGRANT STATUS TO STEVEN BADGER—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Otto Jelinek (High Park-Humber Valley): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 43, I rise to move a motion of urgent and pressing necessity which relates to