

*Garrison Diversion***EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

APPROVAL OF ANNOUNCEMENT PRIME MINISTER WILL DISCUSS
GARRISON DIVERSION WITH PRESIDENT CARTER—MOTION
UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I ask leave to present a motion under Standing Order 43, a motion which I believe will be acceptable in all parts of the House. I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands (Mr. Douglas):

That this House welcomes the announcement that the Prime Minister will discuss with President Carter, during his forthcoming visit to Washington, the Garrison diversion project in North Dakota, and further that this House unanimously endorses the stand the Prime Minister has said he will take to the effect that work on the Lonetree reservoir be deferred, pending a review of the whole project and of this country's concern over its effects on Canadian waters, particularly in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, which is being made by the International Joint Commission.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Standing Order 43 requires the unanimous consent of the House for the presentation of such a motion for debate. Is the unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, who said no?

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): We agreed.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I understood that there was agreement.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I am prepared to put the question again. Standing Order 43 requires the unanimous consent of the House before the presentation of such motion. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Mr. Dean Whiteway (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, I am certain that all members of the House, all Canadians in general and Manitobans in particular, welcome the telegram sent to the Liberal leader of Manitoba, a non-elected member, announcing that the Garrison diversion would be put on the agenda for discussion. Mr. Speaker, I find it strange that the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) chose not to make that announcement in this House; and, further, when asked direct questions by my colleague the member for Lisgar (Mr. Murta), by the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre (Mr. McKenzie) and myself, refused to answer.

Some hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton): The motion is debatable. Look at the Standing Orders.

[Mr. Fairweather.]

Mr. Whiteway: The making of such an important answer outside this House is, Sir, a degradation of the rights of parliament.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Joseph-Philippe Guay (Minister without Portfolio): Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Fairweather: This is costing us \$5,000 a word.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, may I mention that the Prime Minister had previously made an answer in the House in this regard. It is unfortunate that the hon. member for Selkirk (Mr. Whiteway) was not present. I have made several representations to the Prime Minister.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Horner: Now we know what you have been up to, Joe.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): The Prime Minister assured me that he would take the matter up with President Carter. For that reason, today we were in wholehearted agreement with the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles). We would not object to such a motion, because it had already been agreed that the Prime Minister would do exactly that.

Mr. Walter Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to hear the hon. member for St. Boniface (Mr. Guay), the Minister without Portfolio, or the minister "without", finally indicating what is his parliamentary role. I am concerned about one thing. Why was a burden imposed on the taxpayers of Canada in order to permit the hon. gentleman finally to speak to the Prime Minister? It should be made abundantly clear that the hon. member for Brandon-Souris (Mr. Dinsdale), the hon. member for Selkirk (Mr. Whiteway), the hon. member for Provencher (Mr. Epp) and the hon. member for Lisgar (Mr. Murta), have consistently over the years that this matter has been in issue been asking this government to do what they chose to announce through an unelected member of anything who happens to be a member of the Liberal party. The government did not even have the courtesy to send copies of that telegram to the members of this House from Manitoba. I am sure that includes the hon. member for St. Boniface (Mr. Guay) as well.

With regard to the project in, at least in the period of time that I have been here and according to the record I have read before that time, this matter has been dealt with extensively by the Canada-United States interparliamentary group year after year after year with some sympathy among congressmen and senators in the United States. The matter has been ignored by this government except through evasion.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton): If the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) is going to speak to the President of the United States with regard to this very important matter, a matter which I class beyond an irritant, one that affects the environ-