

fore, from a political perspective, we have all lost an important person.

[*Translation*]

He leaves behind him his wife and two young children, to whom we offer all our sympathy. This is a sad event for his family as well as for Canadian politics.

Mr. Charles-Eugène Dionne (Kamouraska): Mr. Speaker, on behalf of all my colleagues and in my own name, I want sincerely to thank the Acting Prime Minister (Mr. MacEachen), the Leader of the Official Opposition (Mr. Clark), and the leader of the New Democratic Party (Mr. Broadbent), for their moving and comforting expressions of sympathy.

The warm tributes we just heard are a great comfort to us and will help bear the grievous loss we are experiencing as the result of the tragic event which caused the premature death of our young leader, Mr. André Fortin, whom we had learned to know as a dynamic organizer, aware of his duties and responsibilities.

It was at the end of a four-day tour of British Columbia from where he returned with much enthusiasm about his meetings with the supporters and organizers of our party that André undertook his fatal trip from Ottawa to his Victoriaville home when fatigue overcame him and put an end to a very promising career.

André Fortin was not only the national leader of the Social Credit Party of Canada but he was to us all a friend. He always showed an acute sense of timeliness and he was gifted with a great clarity of mind which enabled him to find the right word at the right moment. I think that under the circumstances it would be appropriate to quote an excerpt from the last speech he delivered in the House of Commons on June 15, 1977:

If we want law and order, we will adopt mechanisms and legislation proving that we are serious and consequently we will punish those who violate the law and encourage those who abide the law. I think that is essential.

André Fortin will remain a friend in the memory of all those who worked with him or came in contact with him in political quarters, and in the memory of all Canadians, whatever their social standing. During his short political career, he gave the example of a model worker who knew the needs and yearnings of the Canadian people.

To his wife, his children, his constituents of Lotbinière and his relatives, we extend our deep sympathy.

● (1410)

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I should like to add a few words, although the leaders of the various parties have already expressed the general feelings of the House. The leader of the New Democratic Party (Mr. Broadbent), André Fortin and I were elected to Parliament for the first time in 1968, and we have been very good friends ever since. We began our work here at the same time in a very deep and sincere spirit of mutual co-operation. On behalf of all hon. members, I wish to extend to Mrs. Fortin and her family my deepest condolences.

Oil

[*English*]

I should also like to associate myself with the remarks already expressed, both here and in the press. Undoubtedly, like so many other members who are attempting to devote their time to the responsibilities which all members take so seriously—their work here, their duty to be among the electors to explain the doctrines of their parties, their duty to be with the workers in the province, especially at this critical time in Quebec, and, finally, a commitment to spend some of that time with members of the family—André Fortin was led into a schedule which contributed to his fatigue and to his fatal accident. We all, as members, understand that. I believe every citizen of the country should realize it was his tremendous devotion and commitment to duty as a member and as the leader of a major party in this House which contributed to his death and should pay him tribute because of that.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*English*]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

SUGGESTED PRESIDENTIAL VETO OF FUNDS FOR GARRISON DIVERSION PROJECT—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, I move under the provisions of Standing Order 43, a matter of urgent and pressing necessity, that being the restoration of funds by the United States Congress for the further construction of the Garrison Dam Project in North Dakota. Because of the serious implications of this action for the province of Manitoba, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Dauphin (Mr. Ritchie):

That this House, through the Department of External Affairs, contact the president of the United States giving Canada's unconditional support for what will hopefully be a presidential veto on this most urgent matter.

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 43, such motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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ENERGY

PROPOSAL THAT EXTRA REVENUE BE PLACED IN FUND FOR OIL EXPLORATION—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, I rise, under the provisions of Standing Order 43, on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity arising out of the announced price increases for oil and gas over the next two years, an