

Routine Proceedings

• (1550)

[*English*]

Mr. Riis: Mr. Speaker, my understanding of the rules is certainly not perfect but is a single member able to withdraw a motion once it has been put? Does it not require unanimous consent?

Mr. Speaker: The motion itself has not been proposed yet. All that is happening now is whether there is consent for the hon. parliamentary secretary to propose the motion.

Other hon. members have asked the question. The hon. member for Mégantic—Compton—Stanstead and the hon. member for Hull—Aylmer have raised the point of what the procedure is.

[*Translation*]

What is the procedure in the circumstances? I gave my response, and I assume hon. members are satisfied.

Furthermore, we now have a situation where the hon. member for Hull—Aylmer made a statement in which he, together with several other members, supported the motion.

[*English*]

Under the circumstances perhaps the hon. parliamentary secretary would want to put the motion again but I am questioning the hon. parliamentary secretary's handling.

Mr. Cooper: Mr. Speaker, I want to make it very clear that I do not want to have this situation brought before the House in such a way as it may cause a debate that I think may call a number of the concerns of members into some sort of game playing situation.

I think it is pretty clear to the House what the Bloc Québécois is trying to do and I do not want to play its game.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member does not want to proceed and as a consequence that is the end of the issue, at least for today.

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PETITIONS

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops): Mr. Speaker, it is a delight to present a petition on behalf of a number of

residents of Kamloops, British Columbia, who are asking the government to ensure that the Royal Canadian Mounted Police receives adequate funding at a time when its mandate needs to be fulfilled more than ever before and there may be some question of reduction in federal support.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops): Mr. Speaker, I cannot refer to the actual size of this petition but from the area of greater Kamloops there are literally thousands of names on this petition opposing the goods and services tax.

The petitioners point out that the tax is actually destroying the local economy and is one of the major factors in the increase in bankruptcies over the last little while. They are simply asking the government to please come to its senses and withdraw this nasty tax.

Mr. McDermid: Did you ask them what they wanted it replaced with?

Mr. Riis: They want it replaced with a minimum corporate tax and they also wanted an inheritance tax for people who inherit millions of dollars, a wealth tax. They would have to pay some taxes on that.

There are others such as closing some of the major corporate loopholes.

NORTH THOMPSON RIVER

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops): Mr. Speaker, I have a petition signed by a number of people from central British Columbia opposing the announced decision of a Vancouver firm in a joint venture with a California firm.

They plan to dam the North Thompson River at Valemount, British Columbia in an effort to divert some of the water into the San Diego, California area. The petitioners are simply asking the Canadian government to state that it will not allow this to proceed.

NARCOTICS CONTROL ACT

Hon. Chas. L. Caccia (Davenport): Mr. Speaker, in this petition people in my riding of Davenport and several neighbouring ridings are calling upon Parliament to urge the government to revise the Narcotics Control Act so that assets and cash seized as a result of a conviction are shared fairly and equitably with local police forces and community organizations in their continuous efforts to reduce drug abuse.