

# HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, February 13, 1976

The House met at 11 a.m.

## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

### EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

SUGGESTED DELAY IN VESTING IN CANADA OF THOUSAND ISLANDS BRIDGE PENDING CONSULTATION WITH ONTARIO—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

**Mr. Tom Cossitt (Leeds):** Mr. Speaker, I rise to propose a motion under the terms of Standing Order 43 arising out of the government's disregard of existing statutes of the year 1936 which state that the Canadian section of the Thousand Islands International Bridge will revert to, and become the property of, the government and the people of Ontario as of March 1, 1976. I move, seconded by the hon. member for Parry Sound-Muskoka (Mr. Darling):

That this House condemns the illegal and unwarranted attempt by the government of Canada to seize without compensation as of March 1, 1976 the Thousand Islands International Bridge and all its assets in Canada valued at more than \$25 million from the government and the people of Ontario to whom it rightfully belongs by law as of March 1, and further the House orders the government to immediately desist from proceeding further without full consultation with the provincial government and full public disclosure on this matter to the taxpayers of Ontario.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Standing Order 43 requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. Members:** No.

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### PUBLIC SERVICE

FAILURE OF GOVERNMENT TO CORRECT PRACTICE OF RUG-RANKING OF SECRETARIES—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

**Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby):** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity under the provisions of Standing Order 43. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow is the second anniversary of the St. Valentine's Day march on Parliament Hill by federal government stenographers, protesting the despicable practice of rug-ranking whereby secretaries are paid, not according to their qualifications but according to the person for whom they work. The federal government promised fast action some two years ago and, despite all the pious speeches of International Women's Year, rug-ranking even on Parliament Hill still exists.

I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for New Westminster (Mr. Leggatt), and I should like to present in conjunction with this motion this valentine to the Acting Prime Minister (Mr. Drury):

That this House condemns the government for its lack of action in dealing with a matter of considerable concern to some 18,000 of its employees—the practice of rug-ranking—thereby showing, once again, that it is quite heartless.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Such a motion cannot be presented without the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. Members:** No.

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### VETERANS AFFAIRS

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT BY MINISTER ON PENSIONS FOR PRISONERS OF WAR—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, this is a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. I therefore ask leave under the provisions of Standing Order 43, to move, seconded by the hon. member for Waterloo-Cambridge (Mr. Saltsman):

● (1110)

That this House deplores the fact that no statement was made yesterday, as had been promised, concerning legislation respecting Canadian veterans who were prisoners of war as recommended unanimously by the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs in its report of June 12, 1975, and calls on the Minister of Veterans Affairs to make such a statement without further delay.

**Mr. Speaker:** Pursuant to Standing Order 43 this motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. Members:** No.

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### INDUSTRY

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON PLANS FOR RATIONALIZATION OF AEROSPACE INDUSTRY AND FITTING DOUGLAS AIRCRAFT INTO SUCH PLAN—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

**Mr. Max Saltsman (Cambridge-Waterloo):** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity under the provisions of Standing Order 43. In view of the fact that Douglas Aircraft apparently intends to lay off some 1000 members of its 1,650 member work force, and in