

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, February 26, 1981

The House met at 2 p.m.

● (1405)

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

METRIC CONVERSION

SUGGESTION FARMERS BE PERMITTED TO USE IMPERIAL MEASUREMENT SYSTEM—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River): Merci beaucoup, madame le Président. I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. Whereas farmers across Canada do use, and want to continue to use imperial measurements, pecks, bushels and tons, to measure their products, and the Canadian Wheat Board is endeavouring to impose metric tons on the farmers, which makes the producers foreigners in their own country, therefore I move, seconded by the hon. member for Lethbridge-Foothills (Mr. Thacker):

That the government permit farmers to continue to use their imperial measurements, and if the Canadian Wheat Board wants to use metric let it do the conversion in its head office but issue all measurements to farmers in imperial bushels and tons.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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EMPLOYMENT

COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE JOB-TRAINING PROGRAMS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Bob Corbett (Fundy-Royal): Madam Speaker, under the provisions of Standing Order 43 I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. The CNR has refused to honour its commitment to the CBRT & GW Local 14 in Halifax for the training of employees in other job areas. This refusal to honour the training provision is an example of the lack of concern that the government has for jobs in this country, and particularly its lack of concern for the future of our youth. I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Prince George-Bulkley Valley (Mr. McCuish):

That the House insist that the Liberal government live up to its commitment to provide job-training programs and that it provide the youth of this country with a hope for their future which they are presently denied.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent to this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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LABOUR RELATIONS

B.C. TELEPHONE COMPANY DISPUTE—SUGGESTED ROLL BACK OF RATE INCREASE—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Mark Rose (Mission-Port Moody): Madam Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43. In view of the fact that the foreign-owned B.C. Telephone Company has refused to end the 14-month dispute with its workers despite the excellent efforts of federal mediator Bill Kelly, and since, because of the current strike lockout the company is in a position to rake in massive profits while its wage bill is sharply reduced, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles):

That the cabinet use its powers under the National Transportation Act to roll back the February 2, 1981, CRTC granted rate increase until B.C. Tel ceases its blackmail demands of still further rate hikes and agrees to sign the Kelly settlement package.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

AID SOUGHT FOR SYDNEY STEEL CORPORATION—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Howard Crosby (Halifax West): Madam Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43. Sydney Steel Corporation provides direct and collateral employment for thousands of persons, and is the backbone of the economy in Cape Breton in Nova Scotia. The failure of the federal government to date to fulfil its election promise of financial assistance to revitalize the steel plant has endangered this employment, demoralized the work force, and threatened the whole