HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, June 7, 1978

The House met at 2 p.m.

• (1407)

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

STATISTICS CANADA

FILLING OF CENSUS COMMISSIONER POSITIONS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Dan McKenzie (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity pursuant to Standing Order 43. In view of the recent conformation at a provincial court case in Winnipeg by Mr. Harold Kenna, a program manager with Statistics Canada, that lists of Liberal party supporters to fill census commissioner positions for the 1976 census were sent out to Statistics Canada by the federal Liberal party, a practice which can be used for the purpose of gathering political information, I would move, seconded by the hon. member for Lisgar (Mr. Murta):

That the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce instruct his departmental officials to abandon this obvious patronage policy which is undermining the political privacy of millions of Canadians, and adopt a policy whereby impartial lists, free of political affiliation, are given to Statistics Canada for the census commissioner.

Mr. Speaker: Under the terms of Standing Order 43, a motion can be presented only by unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

EXPORT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

LOANS BY CORPORATION—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Tom Cossitt (Leeds): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent necessity to draw attention to recent loans made by the Export Development Corporation, one in the amount of \$47 million and the other in the amount of \$50 million, to the Beloit Company of Canada, Sorel, Quebec, a totally-owned subsidiary of the Beloit Company of Wisconsin, U.S.A., for the manufacture of newsprint machinery to be used by two American companies, namely, the Bato Company in Virginia and the Midtec Paper Corporation in Wisconsin. I, therefore,

ask leave to move, seconded by the hon. member for Parry Sound-Muskoka (Mr. Darling):

In view of the fact that the machinery thus produced will be used in the United States to produce paper in direct competition with Canadian paper producers, something which could result in serious loss of business and jobs in one of our major industries, the House condemns the action of the government in sacrificing the long-term health of a truly Canadian industry, namely, the pulp and paper industry, in favour of a short-term benefit to a Canadian machinery manufacturer which is wholly-owned by American interests; and, finally, that the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce explain to the House why such steps were taken by ministerial order against the recommendations of senior officials of the Export Development Corporation.

• (1412)

Mr. Speaker: The presentation of such a motion requires unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

STATISTICS ACT

MAKE-UP OF CENSUS FORM—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. John Rodriguez (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 to seek the unanimous consent of the House on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. In view of the fact that Mr. Bill Watkins, a constituent of mine, has been charged under the Statistics Act with failing to complete a census form, that the section of the form which Mr. Watkins refused to complete did not provide for the accurate listing of the mother tongue of his children, which was neither English nor French but was both, since the children are fluently bilingual, that Mr. Watkins had pointed out this failing in the census form to the chief statistician in 1971 and had been informed that the census form would be changed, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Brant (Mr. Blackburn):

That this House urge the government to charge the responsible minister with an infringement of section 8(1) of the Statistics Act for discrimination against bilingual Canadians and, further, that this House urge the government to introduce a special bill to cover the legal expenses of Mr. Watkins incurred for contesting this charge brought against him by this government.

Mr. Speaker: Presentation of such a motion for debate requires unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.