

Questions on the Order Paper

For these reasons, the petitioners humbly pray Parliament to censure the government for having signed the Mulroney-Reagan trade agreement.

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QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

Mr. Jim Hawkes (Parliamentary Secretary to Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I suggest that all the questions stand over.

Mr. Speaker: Is it agreed?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

RAILWAY SAFETY ACT

MEASURE TO ENACT—CONCURRENCE IN SENATE AMENDMENT

Hon. Bill McKnight (for the Minister of Agriculture) moved the second reading of, and concurrence in, the amendment made by the Senate to Bill C-105, an Act to ensure the safe operation of railways and to amend certain other Acts in consequence thereof.

Motion agreed to, amendment read the second time and concurred in.

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CANADA GRAIN ACT

MEASURE TO AMEND

The House proceeded to the consideration of Bill C-112, an Act to amend the Canada Grain Act and other Acts in consequence thereof, as reported (without amendment) from the Standing Committee on Agriculture.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): There are two motions in amendment on the Notice Paper for the report stage of Bill C-112, an Act to amend the Canada Grain Act and other Acts in consequence thereof, both standing in the name of the Hon. Member for Prince Albert (Mr. Hovdebo).

Motions Nos. 1 and 2 are admissible and will be debated and voted on separately.

I shall now put Motion No. 1 to the House.

Mr. Gauthier: The Member is not here.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): We will proceed to Motion No. 2. I will listen to the Hon. Member for Glengarry—Prescott—Russell (Mr. Boudria) on a point of order.

Mr. Boudria: Mr. Speaker, if the House would give its consent I would gladly move Motion No. 2 in the place of the Hon. Member who proposed this motion to the House. However, I could not do so with Motion No. 1. That is why I did not rise to suggest it at that point. Perhaps one of his colleagues could move the motion for him.

Mr. John R. Rodriguez (for Mr. Hovdebo) moved:

Motion No. 2

That Bill C-112 be amended in Clause 35 by striking out lines 38 to 40 at page 15 and substituting the following therefor:

“35.(1) Section 2 shall come into force January 1, 1990.

(2) Section 4 shall come into force January 1, 1990.

(3) All other provisions of this Act shall come into force on a day or days to be fixed by order of the Governor in Council.”

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to participate in the debate on the motion introduced by the Member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Rodriguez) for the Member for Prince Albert (Mr. Hovdebo).

The purpose of Motion No. 2 proposed by the Member for Prince Albert is to ensure that Clause 2 and Clause 4 of the Bill do not come into force at the present time but that the application of those two clauses be delayed until January 1, 1990.

The House may ask why the Hon. Member for Prince Albert would want these two clauses of the Bill to come into force on January 1, 1990. I know the Hon. Member would want me to respond. Clause 2 of the Bill states:

There shall be a Commission to be known as the Canadian Grain Commission consisting of three commissioners to be appointed by the Governor in Council to hold office, during good behaviour, for a renewable term of up to seven years.

The old section in the Act states that there shall be a commission to be known as the Canadian Grain Commission consisting of three commissioners to be appointed by the Governor in Council to hold office during pleasure. Notice the difference. Why does the Government want a seven-year term of office for members of the Canadian Grain Commission? The Hon. Member for Prince Albert quite ably pointed out why. My distinguished colleague, the Hon. Member for Algoma (Mr. Foster), during the debate on second reading and during committee proceedings also very eloquently pointed out that what the Government wanted to do in this case was to provide a sinecure, as in patronage, for one of its members to sit on the Canadian Grain Commission.

● (1120)

You will remember, Mr. Speaker, that the Conservative administration made a number of promises to the Canadian people. You will remember that the Conservatives told the people of Canada that patronage was wrong and that the preceding Government, which had appointed 19 people prior to the last election to various boards, agencies and the Senate—all positions which existed, mind you—was wrong. Upon