

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, May 29, 1972

The House met at 2 p.m.

• (1410)

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

THE LATE DUKE OF WINDSOR

EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY AND CONDOLENCES

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, it is my sad duty to inform the House officially of the death yesterday of His Royal Highness the Duke of Windsor.

[*Translation*]

In view of the very great affection many Canadians bore the Duke of Windsor and the enthusiasm with which they always greeted his visits to us as Prince of Wales, I have sent the following message to Her Majesty the Queen's private secretary:

[*English*]

I should be grateful if you would convey to Her Majesty and other members of the Royal Family this expression of sympathy on behalf of the government of Canada and all Canadians on the death of His Royal Highness the Duke of Windsor.

His Royal Highness occupied a very special place in the hearts and imaginations of Canadians who displayed their affections openly during his visits to Canada as Prince of Wales. On those occasions the personal warmth and youthful spirit of the man were communicated vividly to the people of this country. All Canadians and especially those who remember him in that role now grieve at his death.

I humbly request that Her Majesty extend to the Duchess of Windsor our heartfelt condolences on this sad occasion.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, I have not the slightest doubt that all hon. members will wish to subscribe to this message of sympathy.

[*English*]

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, may I associate myself and my colleagues with the expressions of grief and the condolences which the government has extended to Her Majesty the Queen and to the Duchess of Windsor.

As the Prime Minister has said, the Duke of Windsor had a long association with Canada as Prince of Wales and was held in great personal affection by the people of Canada. I therefore wish particularly to associate myself and my colleagues with the condolences the Prime Minister has expressed on behalf of the people of Canada.

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, the cable which the Prime Minister sent was so well phrased that it

said everything that needed to be said. I merely wish to join my colleagues and myself in the message of condolence to Her Majesty and to the Duchess of Windsor.

[*Translation*]

Mr. C. A. Gauthier (Roberval): Mr. Speaker, we want to join the right hon. Prime Minister and all members of this House in presenting our most sincere condolences to the Royal Family on the occasion of the death of the Duke of Windsor.

Upon someone's death, we attempt a retrospective glance at his life. The memories we do retain of the Duke of Windsor are of his loyalty to his country, the forthrightness of his decisions and above all his sincerity towards himself. Such are the most outstanding qualities which specially characterize him.

[*English*]

Mr. Gleave: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Before we leave motions, is the minister in charge of the Wheat Board not going to make a statement on the announcement of the government that it has decided to purchase 2,000 hopper cars at a cost of \$42 million—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That is not a point of order. If the hon. member wants to ask a question, he may ask it during the question period.

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PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

REFERENCE OF AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1971, TO STANDING COMMITTEE

On the order: Government Notices of Motions:

May 25, 1972—The President of the Privy Council:

That the Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 1971 and the Auditor General's report thereon be referred to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts.

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to section 2 of Standing Order 21 this government notice of motion stands transferred to and ordered for consideration under government orders at the next sitting of the House.

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)