

Order Paper Questions

MOTION TO ADJOURN UNDER S.O. 29

GRAIN PRICING—DECISION BY MINISTER

Mr. Vic Althouse (Humboldt—Lake Centre): Mr. Speaker, yesterday you ruled on a motion that was somewhat similar to this, but I believe there are at least two items of which you were perhaps not aware at the time that I would like to bring to your attention today. The first is that the Legislature of Saskatchewan spent the day yesterday discussing this very subject on the basis of it being an urgent and pressing matter for the economy of Saskatchewan. I think the west part of the country is a very important part of the economy of Canada and the decision that was made on Monday impacts very heavily on the people of the West.

A group of farmers from that area of the country have to use the decisions made this week to decide what it is they should be planting. Those decisions are not made lightly or quickly. The farmers have to know whether or not the decision the Government has made is final. They have to know whether there will or will not be deficiency payments. Therefore, we say that this debate is of an urgent nature and have posed the question in a little broader sense again today.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member has given me notice. May I remind him, as I perhaps should have reminded his colleagues yesterday, that what is intended when one rises to put the application is that only the letter that has been given to the Speaker should be read. The Hon. Member for Humboldt—Lake Centre (Mr. Althouse) came very close to paraphrasing that letter. The reason I say this is that the only information the Chair has with which to answer the application is that which is contained in that letter.

I received the application of the Hon. Member on time. I am not yet persuaded that the application does meet the terms of the rule as it is envisaged in our Standing Orders.

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[Translation]

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Question answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. Doug Lewis (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the following question will be answered today: No. 534.

[Text]

GRAIN COSTS

Question No. 534—**Mr. Angus:**

1. In the past ten years, what was the cost of all improvements and upgrading of facilities related to the movement of grain at each of the major ports in Canada and which were paid for or legislated by the government?

2. What expenditures are planned for future upgrading of such ports?

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Minister of Transport):

1. In the past ten years, the federal government has spent approximately \$6.5 million on improvements and upgrading of grain facilities at Ports Canada: \$3.1 million on upgrading of the dust control system in the Halifax elevator, and \$3.4 million on other grain related improvements such as dredging, solar heating, tug replacement (to be completed in 1986) at the Port of Churchill. Ports Canada has also undertaken (from port generated funds) dust control improvements projects at elevators in Montreal (\$3.0 million), Prescott (\$2.2 million), Port Colborne (\$2.4 million) and Churchill (\$0.3 million) for a total of \$7.9 million, to conform to Labour Canada standards for airborne dust in the work environment.

In addition, the federal Government contributed \$30.4 million towards the construction of infrastructure for a new grain elevator constructed by a consortium of grain companies at Ridley Island, Port of Prince Rupert.

2. Over the next five years, federal Government funded grain related improvements are planned only at Churchill, and are estimated to cost \$13.9 million: \$7.6 million for dust control and \$6.3 million for berth deepening.

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[Translation]

QUESTIONS PASSED AS ORDERS FOR RETURN

Mr. Doug Lewis (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker if question No. 533 could be made an order for return, the return would be tabled immediately.

Mr. Speaker: The question enumerated by the Parliamentary Secretary has been answered. Is it the pleasure of the House that question No. 533 be deemed to have been made an order for return?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

[Text]

MINISTER'S TRAVELS

Question No. 533—**Mr. Boudria:**

1. Did the then Minister of the Environment travel to France and Sweden in April 1985 and to Paris, Corsica, Helsinki and Leningrad in June and July 1985 and, if so (a) what was the purpose of the trips (b) was the purpose changed or altered and, if so, for what reason (c) what was the duration of the trips (d) who accompanied the Minister and was it at taxpayers' expense (e) what official events did the Minister attend and what events were arranged (i) prior to the Minister's departure from Canada (ii) after her departure (f) how many days were devoted to official business (g) what was the cost of the trips?

2. Did the Minister reimburse the government for any portion of the trips and, if so, in what amounts?

3. Did an aide or employee of the Minister travel to Paris in the week prior to the visit to France and Sweden and, if so, (a) for what purpose (b) at what cost?

Return tabled.