

[English]

TRANSPORT—THIRD REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

Mr. Maurice A. Dionne (Northumberland-Miramichi): Mr. Speaker, I have the honour today to present the third report of the Standing Committee on Transport to which, pursuant to Standing Order 69(13), the Committee requests a comprehensive response.

[Editor's note: For above reports, see today's Votes and Proceedings.]

MOTION TO ADJOURN UNDER S.O. 30

[English]

Mr. Speaker: I will now call upon the Hon. Member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath), there being no other motions. The Hon. Member for St. John's East has given the Chair notice of his intention to propose a motion at this time.

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UNEMPLOYMENT

INCREASE AMONG YOUNG CANADIANS

Hon. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I have served notice under Standing Order 30 to ask leave at this time to adjourn the House on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. As you know, Mr. Speaker, we have just finished the semester for the Supply period. There are no more Supply days left, no more allotted days.

Today the country was struck with bad news. There is a deepening economic crisis in the country as reflected in the unemployment figures released today. They show a marked increase in unemployment. We now know that there are 800,000 young people unemployed. We know that as of yesterday interest rates are rising. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, we are prepared to sit here all weekend because we believe the matter is one of urgency and should be treated as such. We hope Your Honour will do the same.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for St. John's East has given me the proper notice under Standing Order 30 of his intention to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a specific and important matter requiring urgent consideration, namely the critical high levels of unemployment, particularly among youth and women.

As the Hon. Member is aware, applications for emergency debates on the unemployment situation in Canada have been filed with the Chair in the past on many occasions. As my predecessors have consistently ruled, and as Madam Speaker Sauvé did on December 3, 1982, problems of a chronic nature are not proper to be discussed under this Standing Order.

Order Paper Questions

I would refer the Hon. Member to Section 16(a) of Standing Order 30 which reads as follows:

—the matter proposed for discussion must relate to a genuine emergency, calling for immediate and urgent consideration;—

I would draw to the Hon. Member's attention the provisions of Standing Order 46(4) which now allows committees to consider reports of the various Government Departments permanently referred to them. I believe the report of the Department of Employment and Immigration and the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission was referred to the Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration on September 29, 1983. I am sure the Hon. Member for St. John's East could find ways to have the matter he has raised considered during the Committee's discussion of the report.

In addition, questions on this matter may be addressed to Ministers on any day during the Question Period. I would draw to the attention of the Hon. Member that he took eight minutes in his exchange during Question Period this morning. The second Member, who put a question on the same subject which included youth unemployment, took five and a half minutes during Question Period this morning.

Mr. Hnatyshyn: How about the answers?

Mr. Speaker: The third question dealt with the same matter. In fact, during the Question Period today I believe all but one question related to the problems of unemployment. Most of those questions touched on the matter of youth unemployment. I offer this as an example of the opportunities which are available to Hon. Members to call the matter to the attention of the House.

For these reasons, I regret that I cannot accept the matter as being proper to be discussed under the provision of Standing Order 30, although it is a matter of considerable importance.

Mr. Cousineau: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Since the Hon. Member was ready to stay here over the weekend, I would like to invite him to a golf game tomorrow.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, I cannot accept the invitation. I have to attend to the many demands of my constituents who are unemployed.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

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QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. Maurice Harquail (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Fisheries and Oceans): Mr. Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 430, 524, 606 and 665.