

# HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, May 7, 1974

The House met at 2 p.m.

## ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

### REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION

FEASIBILITY STUDY OF PROPOSED STEEL COMPLEX IN EASTERN CANADA—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION

**Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys):** Mr. Speaker, I rise at this time under the provisions of Standing Order 43 to move a motion. In view of the grave concern and deep unrest that now exists in Nova Scotia as a result of the recently announced commissioning by the Department of Regional Economic Expansion of a study to investigate the economic feasibility of a steel complex in Atlantic Canada, and in light of the fact that another steel operation in eastern Canada would definitely jeopardize the future of the operations of the steel plant at Sydney and the jobs of over 4,000 steelworkers, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Cape Breton-East Richmond (Mr. MacInnis):

That the federal government immediately cancel the study undertaken to investigate a site for a possible steel complex in eastern Canada and instead solely concentrate on assisting the Nova Scotia government to modernize and diversify the present steel operation at Sydney.

Mr. Speaker, the future fate of the economy of Cape Breton could well hang in the balance as a result of the stupidity of the federal government in commissioning this study.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Speaker:** Is there unanimous consent?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. Members:** No.

**An hon. Member:** MacEachen's boys said no.

**Mr. Speaker:** There is not unanimous consent.

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### PUBLIC SERVICE

TABLING OF PART III OF REPORT BY JACOB FINKELMAN ON EMPLOYER-EMPLOYEE RELATIONS

**Mr. Maurice Foster (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council):** Mr. Speaker, pursuant to

Standing Order 41(2) I wish to table, on behalf of the President of the Privy Council (Mr. MacEachen), Part III of the report of Mr. Finkelman on employee-employer relations in the Public Service of Canada.

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### CANADA ELECTIONS ACT

PROVISION TO MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT OF LISTS OF MILITARY VOTERS TO PERMIT COMMUNICATION

**Mr. Sean O'Sullivan (Hamilton-Wentworth)** moved for leave to introduce Bill C-284, to amend the Canada Elections Act.

**Some hon. Members:** Explain.

**Mr. O'Sullivan:** Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to compel the Chief Electoral Officer to place at the disposal of members of parliament the lists of military voters electing to be enumerated in their respective electoral districts, and thereby to permit members' communication with all their constituents.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

● (1410)

## ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

### FINANCE

THE BUDGET—RATE OF INFLATION ASSUMED IN CALCULATING RATE OF GROWTH IN REAL TERMS AND INCREASE IN INCOME TAX COLLECTIONS

**Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, this question is directed to the Minister of Finance who has forecast a rate of growth of 5 per cent in real terms during 1974 and in his budget presentation last night accompanying figures indicated that the increase in income tax collections in the current fiscal year would be \$1½ billion. In making this calculation, what was the assumption as to the rate of inflation?

**Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, the assumption was based on the inter-reaction between the progressive rate of tax and the expectation of receipts from that tax based on that progressive rate.

**Mr. Stanfield:** Mr. Speaker, I understood the reluctance yesterday of the Minister of Finance to make a prediction as to what inflation will take place in the current calendar year, but I would like the minister to be frank with us and