Energy

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

ALLEGED FAILURE OF MINISTER TO ENSURE SECURITY FORCES OBEY LAW—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. James Gillies (Don Valley): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity.

My motion relates to the revelation by the Prime Minister that it is not the responsibility of the cabinet or even of individual ministers to ensure that the security apparatus of the state obeys the law. In light of the fact that under the parliamentary system of government it has traditionally been common practice for ministers to accept responsibility for ensuring that officials and other servants of the Crown do uphold the law, I move, seconded by the hon. member for York-Simcoe (Mr. Stevens):

That this House condemns the former solicitor general, now the Minister for Consumer and Corporate Affairs, for his failure to exercise ministerial responsibility in the upholding of the law and demand that the minister resign.

Mr. Speaker: Such a motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Yea.

Some hon. Members: Nay.

* * *

[Translation]

ENERGY

SUGGESTED REDUCTION OF TAX ON OIL PRODUCTS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Eudore Allard (Rimouski): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 43, I seek the unanimous consent of the House to move a motion on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity.

In view of the fact that the special 10 cent excise tax on a gallon of gas which the federal government imposed on June 24, 1975 is unevenly applied; that this tax is unfair and discriminatory because it applies to only one class of gas users; that the reimbursement system is complex, and that research has indicated that the price of gas exerts only minimal influence on consumption; I move, seconded by the hon. member for Villeneuve (Mr. Caouette):

That the House call upon the federal government to give immediate effect to the Canadian Automobile Association's recommendation to reconsider its policy by reducing the amount of this tax by 3 cents a gallon, and by taxing all oil product users, which would yield the same \$600 million in annual revenues and eliminate in the process a cumbersome reimbursement system which entails nearly \$3 million in annual expenditures.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. This motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: No. [Mr. Speaker.]

[English]

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT AND CONFIDENCE IN MEMBERS OF FORCE—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Otto Jelinek (High Park-Humber Valley): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a motion under Standing Order 43 which I believe should receive special attention at this time by both sides of the House due to the important and pressing necessity of the matter.

In view of the revelations made during the last week or so, and notwithstanding the events which have led the government to look into allegations of improper and, at times, unlawful acts by some members of our national security forces; because of this, along with such recent irresponsible statements as the one made by Premier René Lévesque whereby he referred to all members of the RCMP force as "jerks", I move, seconded by the hon. member for Selkirk (Mr. Whiteway):

That this House formally endorse and ratify to the people of Canada our over-all support and confidence in the rank and file members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police who continue to exemplify the legend and tradition of national pride which has made them famous and respected throughout the world.

I place emphasis on my reference to the "rank and file" members.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The presentation of such a motion under the provisions of Standing Order 43 requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Yea.

Some hon. Members: Nay.

• (1412)

VETERANS AFFAIRS

PROPOSED REFERENCE TO COMMITTEE OF NEED FOR INCREASE IN DISABILITY PENSION—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. speaker, I wish to move a motion under Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. An editorial in the official publication "The Fragment" by the War Amputations of Canada entitled "Time to take the gloves off" expresses the wide concern of veterans' organizations across the country over the reluctance of the government to bring up to par the basic rate of disability pension for veterans, in line with the established formula to equate those pensions with the average salary of the five lowest categories in the public service. I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Norfolk-Haldimand (Mr. Knowles):

That, as he requested in his motion of November 1, it is incumbent on the government to refer the matter to the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs, and that the National Council of Veterans Organizations be called as witnesses to present the case on behalf of the veterans of Canada.