

method such as extending the small business development bond to include farm businesses?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance): I think the hon. member's question underlines in a sense the contradictions that I am hearing from members of the opposition. Yesterday I read in the newspaper that the hon. member for York-Peel, a very important economic spokesman for the opposition, was advocating further reductions in expenditures as the way to beat inflation. Today I have heard a whole series of suggestions from members opposite asking for increased spending programs.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Crosbie: Name one.

Mr. MacEachen: Although I must say I would like in the circumstances to respond to all these requests, I would like to know how it would be possible to increase expenditures and add to the deficit and fight inflation all at the same time.

Miss MacDonald: You are not doing any one of them.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[Translation]

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY AND OIL SUBSTITUTION

Final Report of Special Committee on Alternative Energy and Oil Substitution—Mr. Lefebvre.

[Editor's Note: For text of above report see today's Votes and Proceedings.]

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[English]

CANADIAN DAIRY COMMISSION

TABLING OF REPORT OF INQUIRY

Hon. E. F. Whelan (Minister of Agriculture): Madam Speaker, in accordance with Standing Order 41(2), I wish to table in both official languages copies of a report of inquiry into certain allegations concerning commercial practices of the Canadian Dairy Commission.

Order Paper Questions

MOTION TO ADJOURN UNDER S.O. 26

[English]

EFFECT OF HIGH INTEREST RATES

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa): Madam Speaker, I ask leave, seconded by the hon. member for Broadview-Greenwood (Mr. Rae), to move the adjournment of the House under Standing Order 26 for the purpose of discussing a specific and important matter requiring urgent consideration, namely, the highest interest rates and cost of living ever recorded in Canadian history, which have caused economic ruin for thousands of Canadians, particularly home owners, farmers, small businessmen and fishermen; and the necessity for the government to institute a new made-in-Canada interest rate policy that will stop fuelling inflation and the resulting hardship for the ordinary Canadian.

Madam Speaker: The hon. member for Oshawa (Mr. Broadbent) gave me notice of his intention to move the adjournment of the House under Standing Order 26 for the purpose of debating certain aspects of the economic conditions of the country, more particularly interest rates.

The hon. member will know that in arriving at a decision on such a motion the Chair must be guided by the provisions of subsection (5) of the Standing Order, which in part reads as follows:

In determining whether a matter should have urgent consideration, Madam Speaker . . . shall have regard to the probability of the matter being brought before the House within reasonable time by other means.

As early as tomorrow and the day following, opposition motions may be set down for debate in the House under supply proceedings if hon. members so choose.

Members will recall the lengthy debate which was allowed by the Chair under the same Standing Order on December 18 and 19 last dealing with economic conditions in Canada, a subject quite similar to that which the hon. member asks be debated today. It is obvious that the Chair under these conditions and on this matter, which is of a continuing nature, cannot accept the hon. member's request for an emergency debate.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[Translation]

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

Mr. John Evans (Parliamentary Secretary to Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance): Madam Speaker, the following questions will be answered today: Nos. 724, 1,491, 1,611, 1,724, 1,879, 1,880, 2,074, 2,099, 2,100, 2,140, 2,143,