

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, February 20, 1981

The House met at 11 a.m.

● (1105)

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

THE CONSTITUTION

SUGGESTED RECONSIDERATION OF GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS—
MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Doug Lewis (Simcoe North): Madam Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity under the provisions of Standing Order 43. The bad news for the government is that 64 per cent of the Canadian people have been joined by the Premier of Saskatchewan and four members of the NDP in opposing the government's constitutional package. But the good news for the government is that Russia's *Pravda*, the official voice of the Communist party, has come to the Liberal party's rescue and lashed out at those who oppose the Liberal party's constitutional policy as reactionaries. I move, seconded by the hon. member for Halton (Mr. Jelinek):

That, in this case, the government listen to us so-called reactionaries and reconsider both the process and the substance of its constitutional proposals.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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ENERGY

SUBSIDIZATION OF UNITED STATES MOTORISTS BUYING
CANADIAN PETROLEUM—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Gus Mitges (Grey-Simcoe): Madam Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43. Given the latest figures which show the number of American motorists crossing the Canadian border to buy Canadian gas has risen to the point where some 24,000 cars crossed into Canada in a single day over the Peace River bridge at the Fort Erie-New York border crossing, and that these trips have increased by 60 per cent over 1980, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Huron-Bruce (Mr. Cardiff):

That this House call on the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources to determine what the total cost to the Canadian taxpayer is for subsidizing the U.S. motorists gassing up in Canada, which must be in excess of \$100 million a

year, and that he make a statement as to what action the government will be taking to correct this situation.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION

TREATMENT OF RAMNARINE FAMILY—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Derek Blackburn (Brant): Madam Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. On February 18 the *Ottawa Citizen* published an account of the treatment accorded a Canadian citizen, Mr. Ramnarine, a resident of my constituency, whom I have been trying to assist in bringing his wife and family to Canada since 1978. Immigration officials have managed to delay and bungle this attempted reunion so often that the family of seven are now on their fourth set of medicals. I move, seconded by the hon. member for Broadview-Greenwood (Mr. Rae):

That this House order the Minister of Employment and Immigration to provide all facilities necessary to ensure that this family be granted visas prior to the expiration of their fourth set of medicals, and that immigration officials responsible for the grossly incompetent manner in which this case has been handled be severely reprimanded, and full disclosure of the details of this mess be provided to this House.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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NATIONAL ENERGY PROGRAM

SUGGESTED WITHDRAWAL OF BILL C-48—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. F. Oberle (Prince George-Peace River): Madam Speaker, I too rise under Standing Order 43 to propose a motion. Having regard to the fact that the government's energy policy, as outlined in Bill C-48, now before the standing committee, is already showing serious dilatory effects on further exploration and development of new resources, and since provisions of Bill C-48 are clearly in contravention of certain