

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, March 22, 1982

The House met at 2 p.m.

• (1405)

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

HORTICULTURE

APPLICATION OF FREIGHT RATES—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Madam Speaker, as is usual on the first sitting of the House following the first day of spring, I rise to invite all hon. members to enjoy the evidences of spring symbolized by the daffodils from Esquimalt-Saanich available in the lobbies, and to seek their support in favour of this motion, which is seconded by the hon. member for Carleton-Charlotte (Mr. McCain):

That this House urge the government, in close consultation with the Horticultural Council of Canada and other producer spokesmen, to ensure that Canadian producers of flowers, vegetables, fruits, fish and other natural products shall not be forever disadvantaged as they now are by the preferential freight rates, particularly air freight rates, accorded by their governments or national airlines to some offshore suppliers of these products to the Canadian market.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

ADVERTISING EXPENDITURES—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Stan Darling (Parry Sound-Muskoka): Madam Speaker, earlier this month an article in the *American Wall Street Journal* revealed that last year the Canadian government spent \$58 million on advertising itself. This level of expenditure placed the government not only as the number one advertiser in Canada, higher than General Foods, but at the top of a list of all western nations, including the United States, based upon the percentage of each nation's total advertising spending. This leads me to move, seconded by the hon. member for Brampton-Georgetown (Mr. McDermid):

That this government immediately cease these costly, self-aggrandizement programs and use the millions of dollars saved to provide urgent and much needed assistance to the thousands of Canadians who have lost or are losing their jobs, their homes, their farms and their businesses.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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ASTRA TRUST

DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Joe Reid (St. Catharines): Madam Speaker, an interim distribution of the assets of the federally incorporated Astra Trust Company is now under way with the federal government receiving almost 92 per cent of the proceeds. In these hard-pressed times when the government is already gleefully taxing away the retirement savings of people, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Erie (Mr. Fretz):

That the government first look after Canadian investors who have lost their savings in this fiasco, rather than scratch and claw its way through the courts to claim a lion's share of the Astra Trust pie.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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[Translation]

ENERGY

ALLEGED CAVALIER ATTITUDE OF MINISTER CONCERNING PROBLEMS RAISED BY QUEBEC LIBERALS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa): Madam Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity, under the provisions of Standing Order 43.

Whereas a resolution proposed by Quebec Liberal delegates at a convention in Trois-Rivières on the week-end, asking the government to make a 25 per cent cut in interest rates for farmers, small businesses and property owners was headed off as a result of action taken by the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Lalonde) I move, seconded by the hon. member for Hamilton Mountain (Mr. Deans):