

S.O. 43

[Translation]

INDUSTRY

FOOTWEAR—RECOMMENDATION TO RE-INCLUDE LEATHER SHOES IN GLOBAL QUOTA—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Hon. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Madam Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity, under the provisions of Standing Order 43.

Being aware that at this very moment, the unemployment situation has become disastrous, and realizing that the exclusion of leather footwear from the global quota would deal a fatal blow to the footwear industry, I move, on behalf of the 20,000 workers in this industry, seconded by the member for Erie (Mr. Fretz):

That this House unanimously urge the minister responsible to reinstate leather footwear as part of the global quota before April 30, 1982, otherwise it will be too late for the industry and for thousands of qualified workers.

Madam Speaker: This motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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[English]

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

DELAY IN PASSAGE OF BILL C-43—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby): Madam Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity pursuant to Standing Order 43. In view of the fact that the Minister of Communications has stalled on proceeding with Bill C-43, the long overdue legislation dealing with access to information, on the basis that provincial attorneys general want a uniform act, and in view of the fact that it is now clear that a majority of provincial attorneys general are refusing to co-operate in this stalling device and will not agree to a uniform act, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Saskatoon East (Mr. Ogle):

● (1215)

That this House calls upon the Minister of Communications to appear immediately before the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs and deal expeditiously with the long over due legislation, Bill C-43.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

THE ECONOMY

REQUEST THAT MINISTER WITHDRAW OR AMEND BUDGET

Hon. David Crombie (Rosedale): Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Finance. I know he will be aware from the statistics this morning that the unemployment rate now stands at 9 per cent. That is the highest level of unemployment the country has suffered since we started keeping monthly records, indeed the highest level since World War II. Also the minister knows that all but one of the major economic indicators indicate a decline, and I am sure he was not surprised to learn from the statistics this morning that there are 166,000 fewer people working this year than last year.

We all know that the minister has been consulting with economic leaders across the country and these statistics ought not to be a surprise to him. In light of this disastrous economic news, will the minister advise the House whether he intends either to withdraw his budget or bring in substantial amendments to it?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance): Madam Speaker, I am aware of the unemployment statistics which are very serious indeed. The hon. member suggested that I consider withdrawing the budget. I wonder whether he is including in that question the thought that I should withdraw from the current monetary and fiscal policy which is being followed by the Government of Canada.

Some hon. Members: Yes.

Mr. MacEachen: If that is his proposal, then I think I should like to hear it from him directly.

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LABOUR CONDITIONS

INDUSTRIAL LABOUR ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM

Hon. David Crombie (Rosedale): Madam Speaker, of course my question was a simple one. I just asked the minister whether he would either withdraw his budget or change it. In the absence of the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, perhaps I should direct my supplementary question to his parliamentary secretary, his acting minister, or to the Minister of Finance. Indeed, it is a specific question; perhaps the Minister of Finance can help.

Mr. MacEachen: I will try.

Mr. Crombie: A year ago the Industrial and Labour Adjustment Program was established to deal with those areas of the country which were hardest hit. The program itself has been characterized more by public relations announcements from