S.O. 43

[Translation]

AGRICULTURE

REQUESTED MILK DISCOUNT FOR CONSUMERS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 and ask for the unanimous consent of the House to present a motion relating to a very important matter.

Considering that the dairy industry is the base of agriculture, more particularly so in the province of Quebec, and considering also that the increase in the prices of dairy products is likely to reduce consumption and therefore, dairy production quotas, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Rimouski (Mr. Allard):

That the House recommend that a 5-cent discount on each litre of fluid milk be granted to consumers to stimulate consumption and improve the fate of producers as was done in 1972, a measure that gave excellent results.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The House has heard the hon. member's motion. Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 43, presentation of that motion can be made only with the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

* * *

• (1112)

[English]

NATIONAL SECURITY

CALL FOR INVESTIGATION INTO ISSUANCE OF SEARCH WARRANTS RESPECTING MEDIA—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 43. In view of the alarm generated when media are subjected to police raids designed to get at confidential sources, and in view particularly of a recent case concerning Pacific Press v. The Queen (37 Canadian Criminal Cases, page 487) which indicates that unless sufficient information is made available to the justice before whom the warrant is applied for, or unless there has been a refusal or a reasonable opportunity has been denied police to get the required information, the warrant of search is illegal and will be quashed, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Perth-Wilmot (Mr. Jarvis):

That the Attorney General of Canada immediately investigate all of the circumstances surrounding the issuance of any warrant pursuant to an alleged breach of the Official Secrets Act by the member for Leeds and report to the House as to the adequacy of the basis for the issuance of such warrants.

[Mr. Speaker.]

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to Standing Order 43, presentation of such a motion for debate requires unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

LEGISLATION TO ESTABLISH MONITORING AGENCY

Mr. James Gillies (Don Valley): Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Finance. It arises from a rather astonishing report that the Economic Council of Canada is going to serve as the monitoring agency after the expiry of the AIB. It is astonishing, because the chairman of the council has already said she does not want that responsibility or opportunity.

Does the government intend to introduce legislation, and when will that be, changing the role and responsibilities of the Economic Council so it can carry out that function, particularly given the fact that the statute establishing the Economic Council does not provide any power to the council other than to use published information, published statistics, giving it absolutely no right to collect information other than that which is already published and available through Statistics Canada? When may we expect to see the new legislation, and what will be its basic thrust?

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I am not in a position to comment very substantially on that problem. An announcement will be made when all the details have been finalized. The proposal of the Economic Council of Canada playing that role was a suggestion made to the government by the premiers. We have looked at it and discussed it with the chairman of the Economic Council. When a final decision has been reached between the government and the council, an announcement will be made.

Mr. Gillies: Mr. Speaker, do I understand from the answer of the Minister of Finance that the decision has not been reached to use the Economic Council as a monitoring agency after the AIB expires on April 15? Given the fact that the House will rise soon—which leaves very little time for the government to introduce the legislation required—can the minister enlarge on the situation, considering the fact that the provinces are very concerned about interference with their jurisdiction, and if the council is used as the monitoring agency it will have no authority over decisions reflecting the responsibilities of the provinces, particularly with regard to labour relations?

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