

S.O. 43

LOTO CANADA

"BUY CANADIAN" POLICY—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Paul Dick (Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I rise, pursuant to Standing Order 43, on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. In view of the fact that the Ontario Lottery Corporation and Loto Quebec have asked for proposals from electronic terminal and computing firms, which manufacture here in Canada, as of early June, 1978, and subsequently have had public bidders' conferences to give representatives of these firms more specific information, these conferences attracting some 125 representatives in Toronto and 95 in Montreal, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Parry Sound-Muskoka (Mr. Darling):

That this House condemns Loto Canada for sole-sourcing its lottery gaming contract to an American firm which will result in less Canadian content than other Canadian manufacturers could have guaranteed, thus ignoring the federal government's announced "Buy Canadian" policy and in effect exporting what would otherwise be Canadian jobs to the United States, and that this House instructs the Crown corporation, Loto Canada, to withdraw from any agreement with General Instrument of Canada Ltd. and to seek applications from the Canadian industry through public tenders for the large, \$23 million contract.

Mr. Speaker: Such a motion can be presented for debate at this time only with the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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TRANSPORT

CAR RENTALS AT AIRPORTS—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 Standing Order 43. In view of difficulties and law suits involving the Minister of Transport and his department because of policies, rules and regulations respecting car rental concessions and counter space at nine major Canadian airports, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Lisgar (Mr. Murta):

That the minister make a statement on motions this week dealing with some of the following points: complaints on file from major car rental companies that Host Rent-A-Car has not met the strict requirements of articles 4 and 5 of its agreement with the Crown re non-payment of fees and guarantees; what if any action he has taken pursuant to article 27 respecting default of the agreement between Host and the Crown relating to the non-payment of fees and guarantees; whether interest on such moneys is being claimed pursuant to article 6 of the agreement; and, finally, in view of the substantial problems recently encountered, whether the minister intends to change tendering procedures which up to now have encouraged unrealistic projections.

Mr. Speaker: Presentation of such a motion for debate, pursuant to Standing Order 43, requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

[Mr. Crosbie.]

• (1412)

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

POSITION TAKEN BY EX-CHAIRMAN OF NATIONAL ENERGY BOARD

Mr. Bill Jarvis (Perth-Wilmot): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Prime Minister. It relates to the former chairman of the National Energy Board, Mr. Crowe, who was in that position until December 31 last and has now accepted a position on the board of directors of Sulpetro of Canada Limited which currently has an application for gas exports before the National Energy Board. I have in mind the letter sent by the Prime Minister to senior office holders on October 18, 1976, which states:

A former office holder must not, within the relevant time period accept appointments to the board of directors of a commercial corporation which was, as a matter of course, in a special relationship with the department or agency with which he was last employed, where "special relationship" means regulation of the corporation by the department or agency.

I ask the Prime Minister whether it is his view that Mr. Crowe was in violation of these guidelines in accepting that specific directorship.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, without wishing to comment on this particular case, I remind the hon. member that the guidelines we issued did not apply to judicial or quasi-judicial officers. We published guidelines concerning ministers and members of parliament which were then studied by a committee of the House. We also published guidelines concerning former civil servants. Although we did look at the matter of holders of judicial or quasi-judicial offices, it was our feeling at the time that we should not publish guidelines in that area, certainly not without further discussions with the courts. I think the House will understand that the government was somewhat reluctant to go from the executive or legislative branches into the judicial branch. That is why we have not published guidelines.

I am not commenting on the particular case. It may or may not be a conflict of interest situation. But I can tell the House that on the basis of the public guidelines, there were none for holders of quasi-judicial offices.

Mr. Jarvis: Mr. Speaker, without entering into a debate with the Prime Minister on the nature of that specific office, may I ask him whether the advisory committee would have advised this specific former chairman, Mr. Crowe, as to the applicability of the guidelines to his particular case when he left the National Energy Board last December 31?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, the advisory board applied to those who are covered by the guidelines, not other persons. I repeat, it is a delicate matter for the government to publish guidelines to holders of judicial or quasi-judicial offices. I think that particularly the parties on the other side of the House which were critical of the government when it took