

S.O. 43

Minister of Finance (Mr. MacEachen) has repeatedly refused to extend the provisions of the small business development bond program, citing the government's inability to absorb additional costs, and because a new study by the Canadian Federation of Independent Business recently concluded that the SBDB program will, in fact, produce a net gain in government revenue of \$77 million in the first year alone, I move particularly since the government refuses to take any action in order to reduce the damaging interest rates in this country, seconded by the hon. member for St. John's West (Mr. Crosbie):

That this House instruct the Minister of Finance to amend immediately the provisions of the small business development bond program to include venture or working capital and to render unincorporated businesses, farmers and fishermen eligible to receive such benefits, and further that the program itself be extended beyond the December 31, 1981, deadline.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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METRIC CONVERSION

SUGGESTED POSTPONEMENT OF PROGRAM—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Bill Domm (Peterborough): Madam Speaker, I rise on a matter that becomes more urgent and pressing every day, especially in view of the six-month lead time foreign scale manufacturers will require in order to supply the Canadian grocery store guinea pigs on January 1, 1982. In the last month the Retail Council of Canada stated "it would be desirable to defer initiation of the scale conversion process until it is clear that the U.S. is close to catching up with Canada". The Canadian Federation of Retail Grocers stated the same thing, that Canada should not convert until the Americans, our neighbours to the south, do. Loblaw companies, on behalf of the corporate chains, stated "We would recommend that the timing of retail scale conversion in Canada be set to coincide with the conversion of the industry in the U.S." I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Red Deer (Mr. Towers):

That the government respond to the clearly expressed wishes of those most affected by metric scale conversion and immediately take steps to halt the scheduled conversion program in the retail food stores and follow the most sensible course of a co-ordinated conversion with our major trading partner and tourist source, the United States of America.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

● (1410)

HEALTH CARE

PROVISION OF SERVICES TO JAMES BAY CREE—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Lorne Greenaway (Cariboo-Chilcotin): Madam Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43.

Whereas this morning at a meeting of the Standing Committee on Health, Welfare and Social Affairs the members, by unanimous vote, directed the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Miss Bégin), and the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Mr. Munro), to provide primary health services to the James Bay Cree until such time as the terms of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement are fulfilled, and given the fact that all doctors serving the Cree will have left the area by June 19 and no replacements will arrive until September, and that there are serious and urgent health problems facing the James Bay Cree, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Oxford (Mr. Halliday):

That the Minister of National Health and Welfare immediately ensure that adequate and comprehensive health care services are provided to the Cree of northern Quebec on a temporary, humanitarian basis, to alleviate their very serious health problems.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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GRAIN

NEGOTIATION OF SALE TO RUSSIA—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Garnet M. Bloomfield (London-Middlesex): Madam Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. Given the announcement today that Canada has negotiated a huge grain sale to the Soviet Union, I move, seconded by the hon. member for St. Boniface (Mr. Bockstael):

That this House convey its support for the work being done by the minister responsible for the Wheat Board in expanding Canadian grain sales abroad.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

SHIPMENTS THROUGH PORT OF CHURCHILL—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): Madam Speaker, my motion under the provisions of Standing Order 43 is on the same topic.

In light of the long-term grain agreement with the U.S.S.R., which is a strange way to conduct an embargo, and in view of the neglect of the Port of Churchill by the federal government, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Dauphin (Mr. Lewycky):