

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, March 2, 1978

The House met at 2 p.m.

● (1407)

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

REQUEST GOVERNMENT APPOINT OBSERVER AT TRIAL OF ANATOLY SHCHARANSKY—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Douglas Roche (Edmonton-Strathcona): Mr. Speaker, in light of the motion concerning Mr. Anatoly Shcharansky passed unanimously by the House on February 8, and in light of new information that the trial of Mr. Shcharansky on charges of treason may start imminently, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Vancouver South (Mr. Fraser):

That the Canadian government request the Soviet government for permission to appoint an official observer at the trial of Anatoly Shcharansky on charges of treason so that the wide international community of concerned people can be assured that justice is done in this very important human rights case and, further, that the Canadian government repeat its offer to give immediate landed immigrant status to Mr. Shcharansky.

Mr. Speaker: The presentation of such a motion for discussion requires unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: There being unanimous consent, is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

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UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

SUGGESTION JOB-CREATION PROGRAMS INTENSIFIED TO REDUCE AMOUNT PAID IN BENEFITS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, I hope the same spirit of agreement and wisdom will prevail on the motion which I wish to present under Standing Order 43.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Broadbent: In view of the fact that Statistics Canada just two hours ago released information showing that unemployment insurance payments in 1977 were almost \$4 billion, an increase of 16 per cent over the previous year, and in view

of government and private forecasts showing that \$4.5 billion is expected to be spent on unemployment insurance benefits this year, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles):

That this House asserts that it is better to pay people to work than pay them not to work, and therefore urges the government to provide job-creation programs which would reduce the \$4.5 billion the government will be paying out in unemployment insurance benefits in 1978.

Mr. Speaker: Such a motion can be presented for discussion only with unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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[Translation]

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

SUGGESTED REFORM OF MONETARY SYSTEM—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 and ask for the unanimous consent of the House to discuss a motion relating to a matter of urgent and pressing necessity.

Given the critical economic situation of the country, given the fact that that situation is primarily due to the lack of control over the social credit and also given the fact that the large financial institutions have pitifully failed to maintain and of course to improve the stable and healthy economy we had, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Roberval (Mr. Gauthier):

That the Minister of Finance (Mr. Chrétien) seriously consider the possibility of reforming our monetary system, more particularly as it relates to the control over credit issuance.

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

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.