

related to the other business affairs of United Development Incorporated.

If such other business affairs are dealings between Mr. Eisenberg and other countries around the world, we are prepared to say that that is not the business of our Auditor General, but what would be the case if Mr. Macdonell, in surveying Mr. Eisenberg's books, finds that there are other business affairs between Mr. Eisenberg's company and the Government of Canada or other agencies of the Government of Canada? It seems to me that for us to pass a motion at this time which would keep those matters secret would not be in keeping with the purposes of this inquiry.

The hon. member for Lachine-Lakeshore (Mr. Blaker) discussed his proposed motion with me before we met at two o'clock, and I indicated that we would not deny unanimity for the purpose of presenting the motion, but I also indicated to him that I was concerned about the point which I have just now made, and the more I have thought about it and the more I have discussed it with my friends, the more strongly I feel that we should not be passing such a blanket motion of secrecy. I realize that the purpose of the motion is to facilitate the going of the Auditor General to Israel to get all the information he can about the deals involving Atomic Energy of Canada Limited, but to repeat my question, if he finds that Mr. Eisenberg has been involved with the Government of Canada in other respects or with other agencies of the Government of Canada, it seems to me that we should not tie the Auditor General's hands with respect to the disclosing of that other information.

We would be happier, or less unhappy, with the motion if a few words were added to it. I therefore wish to propose an amendment which will add words to the motion before the House, and I hope the mover and the House generally will accept these additional words. I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Yorkton-Melville (Mr. Nystrom):

● (1420)

That the motion be amended by adding at the end thereof the following words: "unless such other business affairs are between United Development Incorporated and the government of Canada or any agency thereof."

If that amendment is added, then the House of Commons is saying to the Auditor General, "Do not tell us about Mr. Eisenberg's affairs with other countries around the world but if you find on going into his books that there are other matters involving Canada or other agencies of the government of Canada we do not want to restrict you from bringing that information back to us."

I hope that the mover will accept my amendment and if he does, that the House will do likewise. Otherwise, I am afraid that although we were prepared to let the motion be presented to the House, we could not support it in its original form.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Lachine-Lakeshore (Mr. Blaker).

**Mr. Blaker:** Mr. Speaker—

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

### *Auditor General*

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Pursuant to the Standing Orders of the House I should indicate that in putting this motion the hon. member for Lachine-Lakeshore has in fact spoken. Some hon. members are indicating that if he speaks now he will close the debate. May I remind them that discussion is now on the amendment put by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles).

**Mr. Blaker:** Mr. Speaker, I want to respond briefly to the comments made by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles). Prior to doing so, I want to say that as he was speaking there seemed to be general indication of agreement to the amendment he put. As the mover of the main motion I would also agree. We are receiving the greatest co-operation from Mr. Eisenberg and his company, United Development Incorporated, in Israel and I am sure all members would agree that we hope the amendment would not cause Mr. Eisenberg to finally withdraw the invitation. He has shown the greatest co-operation and has asked for some lessening of the massive publicity surrounding his private business. So be it, and the risk will be ours if as a result of this amendment we cannot get his agreement on this.

**Mr. Speaker:** Is the House ready for the question?

**Some hon. Members:** Question.

**Mr. Speaker:** The question is upon the amendment. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

Motion (Mr. Knowles, (Winnipeg North Centre)) agreed to.

**Mr. Speaker:** The question is therefore upon the motion as amended. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion as amended?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

Motion, as amended, agreed to.

**Mr. Speaker:** Oral questions.

**Mr. Hnatyshyn:** A point of order, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Saskatoon-Biggar on a point of order.

**Mr. Hnatyshyn:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on this preliminary point of order in view of the unusual circumstances today which result from the vote on the Standing Order 43 motion. I believe when this matter was previously discussed Your Honour indicated that if there were debate or a division on a Standing Order 43 motion, the business of the House would be interrupted at 2.15 p.m. in order that the question period could proceed without being affected by any debate on such a motion. I wonder if Your Honour would be inclined to indicate if we would have the full period of time for question period available to us or, as an alternative, everyone would simply agree we have the full three-quarters of an hour for the question period today in view of the unusual circumstances.