HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, February 22, 1978

The House met at 2 p.m.

● (1407)

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

FINANCE

VALUE OF CANADIAN DOLLAR—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. John C. Crosbie (St. John's West): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. In view of the statement in the House of Commons by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Chrétien) on Monday, in reply to a question posed by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Clark) as to whether it was the intention of the government to draw on the stand-by credit of $1.5 billion arranged last September, that "The answer is no, Mr. Speaker", and in view of the statement of the Minister of Finance in the House of Commons yesterday, when asked by the member for York-Simcoe (Mr. Stevens) whether he stood by his statement of last Thursday, that "We do not intervene in the marketplace and we let the value of the dollar fluctuate according to the market situation", and "Mr. Speaker, the policy is still the same", and in view of the completely opposite actions announced last night by the minister that foreign loans were to be arranged for support of the sagging Canadian dollar, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Don Valley (Mr. Gillies):

That this House unanimously resolve to award the Minister of Finance the Baron Munchausen Award for the most extravagantly mendacious story of this present parliament, and that the Minister of Finance have the length of his nose checked on an hourly basis in order to attempt to avoid the Pinocchio virus that at one time afflicted the hero of the famous Italian saga.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

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PUBLIC SERVICE

APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY EMPLOYEES AS TERM EMPLOYEES—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Dan McKenzie (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 43. In view of the fact that the museum division within the Secretary of State Department, and the Department of Employment and Immigration in Toronto, are rushing to make temporary employees term employees before the April 1 deadline when DSS will become the sole contracting authority for temporary help services, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Ottawa-Carleton (Mrs. Pigott):

That this House direct all subject matter to the appropriate standing committee to immediately examine the practice of making temporary employees term employees before the April 1 deadline and that the committee call the Public Service Alliance and the President of the Treasury Board as witnesses.

Mr. Speaker: The presentation of such a motion for debate can be done only with unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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FINANCE

CALL FOR IMMEDIATE PRESENTATION OF BUDGET—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa-Whitby): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity under the provisions of Standing Order 43. We have today a crisis of confidence in the Canadian dollar which is directly related to the crisis of confidence in the Canadian government. I move, seconded by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles):

That this House instruct the government of Canada to bring in immediately a budget containing specific measures to reduce the rate of unemployment and increase the level of economic activity in order to increase international confidence in the Canadian economy.

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

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

[Translation]

REQUEST BANK OF CANADA HAVE ENLARGED POWERS RESPECTING FEDERAL BORROWINGS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Eudore Allard (Rimouski): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the terms of Standing Order 43, I request the unanimous consent of the House to present a motion dealing with an important and urgent matter.

As the Canadian government is about to borrow huge amounts of money abroad to support the Canadian dollar; as