

committed to "massive involvement" in the proposed sale of coal from northeastern British Columbia to Japanese interests, and whereas this coal deal would be one of the biggest sell-outs in Canadian history, this being the first time Canadian taxpayers would be actually subsidizing the export of non-renewable energy resources, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Hovdebo):

That this House condemns the government, and Senator Perrault in particular, for assisting the government of British Columbia in this shortsighted policy, and instructs the Standing Committee on National Resources and Public Works to hold immediate public hearings on the financial implications of the deal.

**Madam Speaker:** Such a motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. Members:** No.

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### SOFT DRUGS

REQUEST FOR TABLING OF STUDIES RELATED TO MARIJUANA—  
MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

**Hon. J. Robert Howie (York-Sunbury):** Madam Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity under the provisions of Standing Order 43.

Whereas the Department of National Defence expended \$74,990 on studies related to marijuana, and whereas the departments of Justice, Consumer and Corporate Affairs, Agriculture, and the Environment indicated no expenditures for such studies in the last five years, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Malpeque (Mr. Gass):

● (1415)

That this House direct all ministers to table forthwith copies of all studies in the possession of their ministries related to marijuana, so members can study and consider them before pending legislation on the subject is introduced in the House.

**Madam Speaker:** Such a motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. Members:** No.

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[Translation]

### IMMIGRATION

REQUEST MINISTER CONSULT HAITIAN ASSISTANCE SERVICE  
TO ASSESS COMPLAINTS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

**Hon. Roch La Salle (Joliette):** Madam Speaker, under the provisions of Standing Order 43, I seek the unanimous consent of the House to move a motion on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity.

### Oral Questions

Since the leaders of the Haitian assistance service in Montreal fear that among the approximately 2,000 Haitians who are in Quebec illegally, a few could do something desperate to avoid deportation to their country of origin, the leaders of the assistance service feel that the screening by immigration officers at Dorval and Mirabel amounts to a form of persecution and racism towards those Haitians, following an official request made to the right hon. Prime Minister of Canada (Mr. Trudeau) for the sake of human dignity, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Cambridge (Mr. Speyer):

That the House unanimously invite the appropriate minister to meet with the leaders of the Haitian assistance service to assess the complaints the leaders have formulated and to make the necessary changes for the good reputation of Canada.

**Madam Speaker:** The House has heard the motion of the hon. member. Under the provisions of Standing Order 43, this motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. Members:** No.

## ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

### SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

MEASURES TO PROTECT CANADIANS WITH REGARD TO INCOME  
TAX

**Hon. David Crombie (Rosedale):** Madam Speaker, my question is addressed to the minister of state for social development policy. The minister will know that the inflation rate in Canada is now at about 9.4 per cent. He will also know that yesterday Statistics Canada indicated we were beginning a cyclical downturn and would be experiencing an economic recession in this country. Indeed, it is being said, as the minister is aware, that both the United States and Canada are headed for a double-digit situation in respect of all three fundamental economic areas—unemployment, interest rates and inflation.

In the midst of all that, what gives me great concern—and this relates to my question—and what gives great concern to many Canadians is the announcement by the Minister of Finance that he wishes to de-index income tax rates. The minister for social development policy well knows the devastating effect that de-indexing of income tax will have on low-income Canadians. I would ask the minister whether he has any initiatives at all he would like to bring to bear so that Canadians will continue to have protection with regard to income tax.

**Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Justice and Minister of State for Social Development):** Madam Speaker, I think the