CANADA SAVINGS BONDS

INCREASE IN INTEREST RATE—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Don Blenkarn (Mississauga South): Madam Speaker, on March 3, when asked to raise interest rates on Canada Savings Bonds, the Minister of Finance (Mr. MacEachen), in standing committee said:

-we stay with the view that the rates are reasonable and that they are reasonable because of the particular characteristics of these bonds.

Ten days later the Minister of Finance raised the interest rate to 13.75 per cent, above the rate paid on guaranteed income certificates, savings accounts with banks and other institutions. I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Peterborough (Mr. Domm):

That this House demands that the Minister of Finance immediately today on motions explain to this House why 11.50 per cent was a satisfactory return on March 3, and how it is necessary, because of the quality of the bonds, to increase the rate of interest to 13.75 per cent on March 13, and how in ten days there has been such a worsening of Canada's credit to force the minister to increase bond yields by 2.25 per cent.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

CRIMINAL CODE

CALL FOR REVIEW OF GUN LAWS-MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River): Madam Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity, under the provisions of Standing Order 43. Whereas the present gun laws permit a peace officer to search a person's home and seize his guns on suspicion, and an Alberta court has ruled that such searches and seizures are illegal unless the owner has committed an offence, and whereas the gun laws require a complete and thorough overhaul, I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Bruce-Grey (Mr. Gurbin):

That this House urge that the gun laws be referred for review and amendment to the Justice and Legal Affairs Committee at the earliest possible time.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

AGRICULTURE

IMPACT OF INTEREST RATES ON FARMERS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. G. M. Gurbin (Bruce-Grey): Madam Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. Given that many

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Canadian cattlemen today are teetering on the brink of bankruptcy with interest rates sustained at levels beyond the ability of cattlemen, and farmers in general, to pay; given also that banks have begun to foreclose on a number of mortgages and that this could mean the loss of livelihood to a number of farmers, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Bow River (Mr. Taylor):

That the Minister of Agriculture immediately give special terms of reference to the Standing Committee on Agriculture to study the effects of interest rates on farmers; that the study place an emphasis on the cattle industry; and that recommendations for relief be made by the committee.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

NUCLEAR ENERGY

SAFEGUARDS RESPECTING SALES OF NUCLEAR REACTORS-MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Mark Rose (Mission-Port Moody): Madam Speaker, I, too, rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43. Despite protests to the contrary by the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), and others, rumours abound that Canada is about to water down its nuclear safeguards in order to sell more CANDU reactors abroad. According to Canada's special negotiator for nuclear safeguards, no changes to our sales criteria for nuclear technology, fuel or expertise are contemplated unless-and the operative word is "unless"-international agreements on the use of nuclear technology are instituted to replace our own minimal sales requirements. Because of the possibility that future international agreements on the use of nuclear reactors might replace existing Canadian safeguards developed to prevent CANDU reactors being turned into nuclear bombs, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Winnipeg-Birds Hill (Mr. Blaikie):

• (1415)

That this House insists that the strongest possible safeguards be maintained concerning the sale of nuclear reactors to foreign countries and that this House instruct the Department of External Affairs to reject any international agreement on nuclear sales which would replace and weaken Canada's present minimal proliferation protections.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.