

S.O. 43

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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● (1420)

FISHERIES

CLOSING OF NORTHUMBERLAND STRAIT SCALLOP FISHERY—
MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Mel Gass (Malpeque): Madam Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43. The Minister of Fisheries and Oceans (Mr. LeBlanc), under the recommendation of the New Brunswick members of the Scallop Fisheries Board, and under protest of the Prince Edward Island members, has closed down the scallop fishery in the Northumberland Strait, leaving Island fishermen, who want to work, unemployed, at a time when unemployment among Atlantic fishermen is reaching crisis proportions. Therefore, Madam Speaker, I move, seconded by the hon. member for St. John's West (Mr. Crosbie):

That this House condemns the Minister of Fisheries for ignoring the welfare of P.E.I. fishermen by again rendering a political decision in favour of his own constituents.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

POLLUTION OF NIAGARA RIVER—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Girve Fretz (Erie): Madam Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. Given that an independent American study has indicated that the sewage treatment plant at Niagara Falls, New York, has been dumping virtually untreated chemical waste into the Niagara River for three years, and further given that, in spite of his campaign promises, the Prime Minister has failed to press U.S. authorities on this grave bilateral issue, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Hillsborough (Mr. McMillan):

That this House condemn the Prime Minister for once again failing to live up to his campaign commitments, thereby assuring Canadians' lack of trust in him and his government.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

THE BUDGET

INQUIRY RESPECTING DATE OF PRESENTATION

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Leader of the Opposition): Madam Speaker, my question is to the Prime Minister, who will know that the lack of interest in economic policy shown by his government has, over the last several months, driven literally thousands of Canadians out of their homes, out of their businesses, out of their farms. The Minister of Finance has been vaguely promising that a budget will be introduced. Can the Prime Minister tell the House of Commons today the date on which a budget will be presented to this House of Commons?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Madam Speaker, I should first point out to the Leader of the Opposition that what he calls lack of interest by this government in economic matters has resulted in a growth in Canada during the first nine months of this year of 6.3 per cent in real terms. That is real growth.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Trudeau: It is certain when the economy grows at this speed that Canadians' expectations remain high. People who are unable to defend themselves, those who were mentioned in the various Standing Order 43 motions that you have heard just now, those who have been hard hit by this inflationary process, by this high growth that goes to others and not to them—it is certain those people need consideration.

I understand the party opposite has been waiting all summer to talk about the economy. I hope they will talk about the economy and not just ask questions, but that they will be prepared to listen to the answers. Some of them will be mentioned in the budget, Madam Speaker. The Minister of Finance has indicated repeatedly, I believe, that he plans to bring down a budget before the end of this month.

● (1425)

ASSISTANCE FOR HOME OWNERS

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Leader of the Opposition): Madam Speaker, I guess it is no surprise to the people of the country, particularly those who have been forced out of their homes, out of their businesses and out of their farms, that even after three months around the world, three months away from here, this Prime Minister still cannot decide on a budget date. He might be able to wait; the people of Canada who are the victims of his economic policy cannot wait. If he cannot give the House of Commons a straight answer on that, perhaps he should go away again and let the country carry on in his absence.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!