

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, March 17, 1978

The House met at 11 a.m.

● (1107)

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

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

Mr. Ray Hnatyshyn (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, I rise, under the provisions of Standing Order 43, on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. There has been no budget brought down by this government since March 31, 1977, despite the serious deterioration in the country's economy. Budgets are necessary for planning for Canadian business and taxpayers; budgets contain supporting information and documentation to substantiate projections, and uncertainty of taxation or incentives undermines business confidence and the taxpayers' forward-planning.

In view of this government's horrendous deficit covering current operating expenses, which means mortgaging our country and future generations as a testament to this government's incompetence, I move, seconded by the hon. member for York-Simcoe (Mr. Stevens):

That this House direct the Minister of Finance to immediately bring down a budget.

Mr. Speaker: Presentation of such a motion for debate, pursuant to Standing Order 43, can be made at this time only with the unanimous consent of the House.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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LABOUR CONDITIONS

LAY-OFFS AT FIRESTONE'S CALGARY PLANT—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43. Firestone of Canada Ltd. has just laid off 110 workers at its Calgary plant, bringing the total number of lay-offs to 270 in the past year. Firestone had been given a 15-year grace period from city taxes in return for providing Calgarians with jobs. I therefore

move, seconded by the hon. member for Broadview (Mr. Gilbert):

That this House condemns the Firestone company's refusal to co-operate with UIC officials and directs the Minister of Employment and Immigration to intervene on behalf of the workers at that plant.

Mr. Speaker: Presentation of such a motion, pursuant to Standing Order 43, can be done at this time only with unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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[Translation]

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

REQUESTED ESTABLISHMENT OF OMBUDSMAN—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 urgent and important matter.

As the protection of the citizens should be the basic concern of any government, and as it also behoves the federal government to ensure the citizens better protection in their dealings with the state, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Roberval (Mr. Gauthier):

That this House call upon the Minister of Justice (Mr. Basford) to take all steps required, as soon as possible, to introduce a bill creating for Canada the office of a federal ombudsman, given the fact that present efforts by the government to determine how best to guarantee the citizens optimum protection in their dealings with the state are inadequate.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The House has heard the motion of the hon. member. Under the terms of Standing Order 43, that motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.