S.O. 43

Post Office, are being jeopardized as a result of strikes and walk-outs, and since many of these work stoppages are a direct result of questionable practices and discrepancies surrounding the taking of strike votes—I refer, for example, to the atrocious and undemocratic way in which the CUPW staged its strike vote last fall—I seek to move, seconded by the hon. member for Calgary North (Mr. Woolliams):

That the Minister of Labour introduce legislation which would give federal government authorities the right to observe and scrutinize any or all union strike vote proceedings within the public service sector.

Mr. Speaker: Such a motion, under the provisions of Standing Order 43, can be presented only with the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

AGRICULTURE

PRESENCE OF MINISTER WHEN ESTIMATES UNDER STUDY— MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Gordon Towers (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43. My motion concerns the fact that instead of coming before the Standing Committee on Agriculture to discuss the very important subject of estimates, the Minister of Agriculture chose instead to visit his predecessors, Senator Olson and Senator Hays, in the Senate of Canada. Since the minister was presumably trying out the furniture with a view to taking his place where he hopes to be after the next election, I would move, seconded by the hon. member for Swift Current-Maple Creek (Mr. Hamilton):

That this House respectfully requests that the Senate does not prepare for the addition of yet another Liberal minister of agriculture to its ranks, and further requests that the present Minister of Agriculture be present at all future meetings pertaining to agriculture estimates if he is serious about getting them passed.

NATIONAL SECURITY

SOVIET INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES IN CANADA—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Stan Darling (Parry Sound-Muskoka): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43. My motion concerns the outpourings of support reported in today's Ottawa Journal which the policies of the Prime Minister has received from the Soviet Union—outpourings which presumably represent the successful outcome of the government's policy of detente. Since the stated view of the Soviet government is, "We're very happy with Trudeau in power", and since the U.S.S.R. wants to do as little as possible to change the situation, I ask leave to move, seconded by the hon. member for Prince George-Peace River (Mr. Oberle):

• (1412)

That this House believes that there can be no distinction between the KGB and the government of the Soviet Union and, despite its praise for the Prime Minister, condemns the intrusion of the forces of Soviet imperialism into the national security of this nation.

Mr. Speaker: Presentation of such a motion for debate, pursuant to Standing Order 43, requires unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

HEALTH AND WELFARE

SPRUCE BUDWORM SPRAYING PROGRAM—MEDICAL OBSERVANCE OF NEARBY POPULATIONS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Andy Hogan (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43. In view of the fact that a ten year old child from Saint John, New Brunswick, was recently flown to Halifax for treatment of a confirmed case of Reye's syndrome, a disease that has been linked to the spruce budworm spraying program, especially through the clinical studies done by Dr. Crocker of the Izaak Walton Killam Hospital in Halifax, and since this is the thirteenth case of the disease since 1968, resulting in at least five deaths, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Sault Ste. Marie (Mr. Symes):

That the Minister of National Health and Welfare direct her department to undertake epidemiological and toxicological studies of the population living in the environs of the spray program to complement the clinical studies being done by Dr. Crocker.

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

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

REASON FOR INCREASE IN BANK RATE

Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Simcoe): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the bank rate increase announced yesterday by the Bank of Canada. Bearing in mind that it is over a year since the spring of 1977 when the bank started moving the bank rate down, and in January, 1977, the unemployment figure was approximately 100,000 less than it is