

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, March 16, 1981

The House met at 2 p.m.

● (1405)

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

THE CONSTITUTION

REASON FOR NON-REFERRAL TO COURTS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Gordon Towers (Red Deer): Madam Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. In a February 23 letter to the Alberta minister of energy and natural resources, the federal Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Lalonde) said, in reference to the National Energy Program, that "The Canadian solution to such differences in the past has been to resort to the courts—" I therefore move, seconded by the hon. member for Edmonton North (Mr. Paproski):

That the government be asked to explain why only selective "differences" of their own choosing are considered to be relevant to referral to the courts for "the Canadian solution" and not general matters which would include the Constitution.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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THE JUDICIARY

FEMALE NOMINEES FOR APPOINTMENT TO SUPREME COURT—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Walter McLean (Waterloo): Madam Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43. Women constitute 51 per cent of the Canadian population, but not one female has ever been appointed to the Supreme Court of Canada. As the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) and the Minister of Justice (Mr. Chrétien) were unable to find a suitable female candidate for the last appointment to the Supreme Court of Canada, therefore I move, seconded by the hon. member for Vancouver Centre (Miss Carney):

That this House invites Canadian women's groups from across Canada to forward to the Prime Minister names of qualified women who would be willing to be considered for appointment to Canada's Supreme Court.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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THE CONSTITUTION

RIGHTS OF INDIAN WOMEN—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan-Malahat-The Islands): Madam Speaker, in the past, members on all sides of the House have indicated their concern about the discrimination suffered by Indian women, so I hope that members on all sides will support this motion. Section 35(2) of the Constitution Act now before the House provides that interim constitutional conferences shall have an agenda item respecting constitutional matters that directly affect the aboriginal peoples of Canada. The Prime Minister of Canada (Mr. Trudeau) is required to invite representatives of the aboriginal peoples to participate in the discussions on that item. In order that the rights of Indian women will be adequately recognized and protected in our Constitution, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Vancouver East (Mrs. Mitchell):

That this House urge the Prime Minister to include in his invitation representatives of organizations which specifically represent Indian women.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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CORPORATE AFFAIRS

PRICING PRACTICES OF OIL COMPANIES—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Bill Domm (Peterborough): Madam Speaker, on January 1 Canadian oil companies, including PetroCan, attached the petroleum compensation charge to inventories of 70 million barrels of oil which they had on hand. As the government knows, this \$2.50 per barrel charge should only be levied on oil delivered after January 1. As a result, the oil companies, and in particular PetroCan, have cleaned up on a windfall profit of at least \$170 million. Because of this I move, seconded by the hon. member for Mississauga South (Mr. Blenkarn):