

no federal assistance is forthcoming, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Churchill (Mr. Murphy):

That the Minister of Agriculture commit himself to provide the desperately needed assistance to these farmers, and to take the appropriate action against the principals of Econ Consulting Limited to recover this outlay; and that he establish a commission to investigate all aspects of the Econ collapse, especially the role of the Canadian Grain Commission in policing the statutes and regulations of the Canada Grain Act.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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POLITICAL PARTIES

PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY CONVENTION—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Roger Simmons (Burin-St. George's): Madam Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. Whereas recent press reports have indicated that the forthcoming Tory convention in Toronto will be discussing neither the leadership of their party, nor the taking of any clear-cut policy initiatives—

Mr. Nielsen: We want to discuss the Newfoundland election.

Mr. Simmons:—and whereas such obvious ambivalence indicates that members of the Conservative Party cannot decide whether to be blue Tories who want to cut, cut, cut, or red Tories who want to spend, spend, spend—

Mr. Nielsen: Better than a yellow Grit.

Mr. Simmons:—I move, seconded by the hon. member for Ottawa-Centre (Mr. Evans):

That copies of the Speech from the Throne be distributed to all Tory members of the House to provide them with some clear-cut and definitive policy options for Canada.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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THE PRIME MINISTER

MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Geoff Scott (Hamilton-Wentworth): Madam Speaker, given the fact that on April 20, 1968, the consumer price index

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was running at a 4.2 per cent rate of inflation, and that a dollar would then have bought you what it costs \$2.83 to buy today, or, to put it another way, the April 1968 dollar is now in 1982 worth 35 cents, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Brampton-Georgetown (Mr. McDermid):

That the Prime Minister of Canada, who says he does not intend to resign as long as the economy is in bad shape, consider the other possibility—that the best way to bring down consumer prices is to resign.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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ENERGY

NATURAL GAS TAXES IMPOSED ON MEDICINE HAT, ALTA.—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Bert Hargrave (Medicine Hat): Madam Speaker, under the provisions of Standing Order 43, and in view of the very unfair, illegal and increasing natural gas taxes presently being paid under protest by the City of Medicine Hat, and in view of the Medicine Hat citizens' petition tabled yesterday in this House with 12,689 signatures protesting this punitive taxation under the National Energy Program, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Red Deer (Mr. Towers):

That the Minister of Finance reassess the propriety of these taxes and allow discussion and referral to committee at the earliest possible date.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

• (1415)

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

LABOUR CONDITIONS

RECRUITMENT OF SKILLED WORKERS ABROAD

Mr. John McDermid (Brampton-Georgetown): Madam Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Employment and Immigration who I see is behind the curtains. I wonder if he might take his seat.

An hon. Member: He is behind the eight ball, too.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!