

HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

CALL FOR INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION GOVERNING
CIGARETTE ADDITIVES—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg-Birds Hill): Madam Speaker, I rise pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 43. In view of various reports, including the recent study by the *Toronto Star*, which indicates that cigarette smokers who have switched to lighter brands may be in much greater danger than they think due to the increased consumption on their part, and particularly due to the added danger of cancer-causing additives, more of which are to be found in such brands, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Regina East (Mr. de Jong):

That the Minister of National Health and Welfare be instructed by this House to bring in legislation enabling the government to obtain and publish the names of additives in cigarettes and other such substances as are now to be found in various products but which are presently trade secrets because competition is a higher value in our society than human health.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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[Translation]

AIR CANADA

REQUEST FOR MORNING SERVICE BETWEEN MONTREAL AND
OTTAWA—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Marcel Dionne (Chicoutimi): Madam Speaker, under the provisions of Standing Order 43 I beg to move the following motion:

As Air Canada intends to cancel all flights from Montreal to Ottawa between 8.30 a.m. and 12 noon in its summer schedule, and as passengers coming in to Montreal from the Atlantic provinces and eastern Quebec will have to wait three hours for a connection to the capital of Canada, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Jonquière (Mr. Marceau):

That the Minister of Transport insist that at least one airline provide service between Montreal and the national capital between 9 a.m. and 12 noon.

[English]

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Oral Questions

• (1415)

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

CORPORATE AFFAIRS

PRICING PRACTICES OF OIL COMPANIES—REFERRAL OF REPORT
TO RESTRICTIVE TRADE PRACTICES COMMISSION

Hon. Allan Lawrence (Durham-Northumberland): Madam Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs I feel I have no alternative but to ask the Prime Minister a question arising from the report of price fixing in the oil industry which, you will appreciate, Madam Speaker, none of us have seen because it is only to be released later this afternoon. I wonder if the Prime Minister could tell the House who made the decision to refer this long awaited report, which apparently contains accusations of collusion and price fixing resulting in billions of dollars of presumably illegal profits to the oil companies. Can the Prime Minister tell us who made the decision to refer this to a minor tribunal for a further public inquiry, which may well take another two years? Was this a governmental decision, was it a decision of the director of the bureau of competition policy, or was it recommended to the government by its legal advisers?

An hon. Member: Jim Coutts.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Madam Speaker, I expect the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs to be arriving incessantly in the House.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: Imminently.

Mr. Trudeau: My answer is somewhat subject to the details he may want to bring, but my belief is that it is the director of the combines investigation branch himself who, along with legal officers, recommended that it would be better to refer this matter to the restrictive trade practices tribunal since, as the House knows, it is not always easy under the present Combines Investigation Act to be successful in pressing criminal charges. It is for that reason that we have been attempting to improve the act.

DELAY IN PUBLISHING REPORT

Hon. Allan Lawrence (Durham-Northumberland): Madam Speaker, my supplementary question must also be directed to the Prime Minister who, I am sure, can explain to the House the reason for the unconsiderable delay in publishing this report, because I am sure the Prime Minister is aware that, more than a year ago, the Clark government had appointed independent outside counsel to advise on what action should be taken on the findings in the report. Those counsel were expected to report to the government within six months, but more than a year has passed since then. What is the reason for this delay? Has the timing more to do with an attempt to ram a bad energy policy down the throats of the Canadian public?