

Surely my hon. friend knows this, and knows the program has had a significant impact on the Canadian economy in terms of lowering inflationary expectations and helping us to reach lower interest rates. We also recognized and indicated all along that it was very important that there be recovery in the rest of the world, particularly in the United States, and we are very happy about what is happening in the U.S. We are benefiting from that, too.

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FARM CREDIT CORPORATION

ACCESS TO CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND

Hon. John Wise (Elgin): Madam Speaker, this is the second time in a few days we have had some very disappointing news. The first was the response to a question I put to the Minister of Agriculture last week, in which he disclosed publicly that the FCC was out of funds. The second one was today in the response to the question of my colleague, the Hon. Member for Bruce-Grey, where we learned that the request of the FCC for \$600 million has indeed been reduced to \$250 million.

● (1500)

My supplementary question must be directed to the President of the Treasury Board because he will know there are only two sources for funding for the Farm Credit Corporation, one being from the private side. That has been significantly reduced. The second source, of course, would be from the Consolidated Revenue Fund. In view of the fact that the Minister of Finance has indeed reduced the original request by the Farm Credit Corporation by 60 per cent, has the Minister of Agriculture, on behalf of the Farm Credit Corporation, made the appropriate application to Consolidated Revenue Fund for additional funds?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance): My hon. friend has it all mixed up. I am also responsible for the purse, generally. As my hon. friend was a Minister, he knows that every day all kinds of groups, agencies, and Government Departments, come with requests for large amounts of money. It is the job of the Minister of Finance to make decisions, quite often telling those people who apply that they cannot get everything they want. In this case I indicated that \$250 million was adequate, and that is the decision.

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PETITION

MR. YOUNG—SAFE DRINKING WATER

Madam Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that the petition presented by the Hon. Member for Beaches

Point of Order—Mr. Collette

(Mr. Young) meets the requirements of the Standing Orders as to form.

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POINT OF ORDER

MR. COLLETTETTE—STATEMENT OF MR. STEWART PURSUANT TO S.O. 21—RULING BY MADAM SPEAKER

Madam Speaker: Since both Hon. Members are in the House today, I would like to rule on the point of order which was raised by the Hon. Member for York East (Mr. Collette) on June 21. I have not been able to rule before because either one or the other Hon. Member was not in the House. That point of order dealt with the fact that the Hon. Member for Simcoe South (Mr. Stewart) had allegedly referred to the Royal Family in the context of a partisan statement, contrary to our rules and practices. He quoted Beauchesne and also Erskine May in support of his contention that the Royal Family had been used in order to influence debate.

The Hon. Member's statement, of course, does not constitute debate for the very fact that during that period there was no motion before the House. Therefore technically speaking, the Hon. Member for Simcoe South was not speaking at a time that one could call debate. However, that is just a technical matter.

I would like to stress and caution very strongly that Hon. Members use great discretion in mentioning the Royal Family or, by extension, the Governor General in their statements and in the course of their argumentation. Of course, the practice which has been well honoured in the House is that the names of the Royal Family or the Governor General should not be brought into debate. Had the Hon. Member been speaking in the course of debate, my ruling might have been different, but it was extremely borderline. Therefore, I again caution Hon. Members against this, and I thank the Hon. Member for York East for having raised the matter.

Mr. Lewis: I rise on a point of order, Madam Speaker. With respect to the ruling which Your Honour just made, I wonder if I might inquire from the Chair whether the Chair had occasion to review the remarks of the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of National Defence (Mr. Hudecki), as reported in *Hansard* on June 20, 1983, when reference was made to the Royal Family. Was that included in the Chair's decision?

Madam Speaker: Of course not. That matter was not raised and I certainly did not look into it, but will if the Hon. Member is now raising it. Normally, those matters are raised immediately after they happen. However, if the Hon. Member is raising it now, I will consider it and I will rule on it.

Mr. Lewis: Madam Speaker, the point that I wanted to make was simply that we did not consider it worthy of raising.

Madam Speaker: Well, then, it is not raised.