

Excise Tax

[Translation]

Mr. Collette: I ask, Madam Speaker, that the remaining questions be allowed to stand.

Madam Speaker: Shall the remaining questions be allowed to stand?

[English]

Mr. Friesen: Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Since January 21 my question No. 2,003 has been on the Order Paper. I believe I have asked about this before. It is of particular importance today now that an announcement respecting a large wheat sale to the Soviet Union has been made. The question has to do with how much credit has been extended to the Soviet Union and to the other eastern bloc countries. I understand that the western hemisphere countries have extended credit to the eastern bloc countries to the tune of \$65 billion, which puts us in a very vulnerable position. I wonder if the parliamentary secretary could see to it that this question is answered as quickly as possible because I think it is germane to the headlines in the newspapers today.

Mr. Collette: Yes, Madam Speaker, I shall follow this matter up.

I ask, Madam Speaker, that the remaining questions be allowed to stand.

Madam Speaker: Shall the remaining questions stand?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

EXCISE TAX ACT AND EXCISE ACT

MEASURE TO AMEND

The House proceeded to the consideration of Bill C-57, to amend the Excise Tax Act and the Excise Act and to provide for a revenue tax in respect of petroleum and gas, as reported (with amendments) from the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs.

Madam Speaker: As hon. members know, there are 135 motions standing on the Order Paper at the report stage of Bill C-57. I have not had an opportunity to examine all the motions to determine their procedural acceptability or, in any case, to group them for debate. However, for the moment, I suggest the following: Motions Nos. 1 and 3 could be grouped for debate and voted on separately.

● (1530)

Motion No. 2 is acceptable for debate and, if required, will be voted on separately.

Motions Nos. 4 and 5 will be debated together and a vote on motion No. 4 disposes of motion No. 5.

Motions Nos. 6 and 7 could be debated together with an affirmative vote on motion No. 6 disposing of motion No. 7. However, a negative vote on motion No. 6 will necessitate the question being put on motion No. 7.

Motions Nos. 8, 13 and 58, standing in the name of the minister, are similar in nature and could be debated together, with a vote on motion No. 8 disposing of motions Nos. 13 and 58.

Motions Nos. 9 and 34 are similar and could be grouped for debate. However, as one motion refers to aircraft gasoline and the other to aircraft parts, separate votes will be required on these motions.

Motion No. 10, standing in the name of the hon. member for Kamloops-Shuswap (Mr. Riis), seeks to import a new proposition and offends the royal recommendation attached to the bill. I might quote for the benefit of hon. members Citation 437(1) of Beauchesne's fifth edition as follows:

An amendment setting forth a proposition dealing with a matter which is foreign to the proposition involved in the main motion is not relevant and cannot be moved.

Also Citation 773(7) reads in part:

An amendment is out of order . . . if it extends the objects and purposes, or relaxes the conditions and qualifications as expressed in the royal recommendation.

I might also add a reference to Citation 516(2) of Beauchesne's fifth edition which reads in part:

—No motion can therefor be made to impose a tax, save by a minister of the Crown, . . . nor any alternative made in the area of imposition.

The hon. member may wish to offer argument on the procedural acceptability of his motion, and if so he can do that the next time the bill is before the House for consideration.

Motions Nos. 11 and 12 will be debated together and a vote on motion No. 11 will dispose of motion No. 12.

Motions Nos. 14 to 26 could be grouped for debate and, if required, will be voted on as follows: Question to be put on motion No. 14 by itself. Question to be put on motion No. 15 and, if in the affirmative, this will obviate the question having to be put on motion No. 16. If in the negative, then the question will be put on No. 16.

Likewise for motions Nos. 17 and 18. An affirmative vote on motion No. 17 will negate the question being put on motion No. 18. A negative vote on motion No. 17 will necessitate the question being put on motion No. 18.

Question will be put on motion No. 19 by itself. Question will be put on motion No. 20 and, if in the affirmative, the question will not have to be put on motion No. 22. If in the negative, the question will be put on motion No. 22.

Question will be put on motions Nos. 21 and 23 separately. Question will be put on motion No. 24 and, if in the affirmative, this will negate the question having to be put on motions Nos. 25 and 26. However, in the case of a negative vote, the