ENERGY

CALL FOR RESIGNATION OF MINISTER—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Thomas Siddon (Richmond-South Delta): Madam Speaker, I rise to present a motion of urgent and pressing importance under the provisions of Standing Order 43. In view of the fact that the hon. Liberal member for Rosemont (Mr. Lachance), who is also the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of State for Trade (Mr. Lumley), has condemned the government's proposal to impose a federal excise tax on the export of natural gas and hydroelectric power from Canada, and has also, in a recent statement, given his full support to many aspects of the sensible energy policy which was put forward by the Progressive Conservative government in the ill-fated budget of December, 1979, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Joliette (Mr. La Salle):

That the present Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources be directed to resign immediately so that he might be replaced by the hon. member for Rosemont who has proposed wise, Conservative ideas which would put Canada on the road to energy self-sufficiency.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Madam Speaker: For presentation, such a motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

• (1415)

PENSIONS

CALL FOR LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE PENSIONS TO HOMEMAKER SPOUSES—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Hon. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Madam Speaker, under the provisions of Standing Order 43, and seconded by the hon. member for Vancouver East (Mrs. Mitchell), I move:

That this House urges the government, in view of its stated recognition of the role of spouses working in the home, to bring before the House legislation to provide pensions for all homemaker spouses, in their own right, equivalent to those earned by contributors to the Canada Pension Plan, thus recognizing in full, for pension purposes, the contribution to our society made by those who work in the home.

Madam Speaker: Presentation of such a motion for debate requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Oral Questions

SMALL BUSINESS

CALL FOR LEGISLATION RESPECTING DEVELOPMENT BONDS-MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Don Blenkarn (Mississauga South): Madam Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 to point out to the House that a great number of small businessmen have been applying to banks and lending institutions to take advantage of small business development bonds. The bonds were confirmed in the "Crosbie" budget and in the mini budget of April, but the legislation has never been introduced and the lending institutions will not make loans without the legislation being introduced and passed. Therefore I move, seconded by the hon, member for Waterloo (Mr. McLean):

That this House directs the Minister of Finance to introduce forthwith the legislation allowing small business development bonds; that the legislation be segregated from other tax legislation; that this House do pass the legislation through all readings without debate; in view of the delay in producing the legislation, that the legislation provide that the program be extended until December 31, 1981.

Madam Speaker: Presentation of such a motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

THE CONSTITUTION

REQUEST DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO PROPOSED RESOLUTION BE TABLED

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Leader of the Opposition): Madam Speaker, in the absence of the Prime Minister my question is directed to the Minister of Justice. It concerns the indication last night that the government is prepared to entertain certain amendments to the draft constitutional resolution presently before the House. So that Parliament will know exactly what we are dealing with, will the minister undertake to have tabled in the House today or tomorrow any draft amendments to the draft resolution on the constitution?

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Justice and Minister of State for Social Development): Madam Speaker, I would be willing to table the exchange of letters between the Prime Minister and the Leader of the New Democratic Party. Of course, we have not yet reached committee stage; I hope we will get there very quickly. I know the Leader of the NDP will present an amendment, and we said that if it is in conformity with the exchange of letters we will accept it. In fact, it is entrenching in the constitution the proposition we made to the provinces last summer.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!