

believe to be the indecision, inaction and mismanagement of the department in British Columbia. So far the only result of this protest has been that 53 of the women were individually charged and now have to face the crushing costs of court appearances. Therefore I move, seconded by the hon. member for Okanagan-Similkameen (Mr. King):

That the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development immediately furnish the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development with a reference to investigate all charges of mismanagement and inefficiency relating to the operation of the British Columbia regional office and direct the committee to report its findings to this House.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

* * *

AGRICULTURE

IMPACT OF HIGH INTEREST RATES ON FARMING COMMUNITIES—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Geoff Scott (Hamilton-Wentworth): Madam Speaker, hundreds upon hundreds of people from the Hamilton-Wentworth area recently signed letters pleading with the Government of Canada to do something about the high interest rates which are devastating our farming communities. These are 1,100 letters collected by the Wentworth Federation of Agriculture which I am now sending to the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance (Mr. MacEachen)—young lady, he is sitting right over there—and there are another 500 of these letters on the way to my office. Therefore I move, seconded by the hon. member for Burlington (Mr. Kemppling):

● (1115)

That the Minister of Finance pay attention to these 1,600 voices from my area as they add their pleas to those of many other Canadians concerned about the crisis in the agricultural sector due to this government's high interest rate policies.

Mr. MacEachen: Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

Madam Speaker: The minister might raise a point of order after question period. We have to finish the motions under Standing Order 43 just now.

* * *

UNITED NATIONS

TRIBUTE TO PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Miss Pauline Jewett (New Westminster-Coquitlam): Madam Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43. Tomorrow is United Nations day. At the same time Canada has just honoured General Burns, the commander of

Oral Questions

the First United Nations Emergency Peacekeeping Force, with the Pearson Peace Medal. In honour of United Nations Day, in honour of 25 years of United Nations peacekeeping, in honour of General Burns, the Canadians who have given their lives to United Nations peacekeeping and the many Canadian Armed Forces men and women who have served United Nations peacekeeping, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Beaches (Mr. Young):

That this House express its best wishes to General Burns and record its recognition of the fine service by Canadians in United Nations peacekeeping forces, and that this House affirm its faith in and support for the United Nations and its endeavours.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

HOUSING

MINISTER'S UNDERTAKING TO HELP HOME OWNERS

Hon. Bill Jarvis (Perth): Madam Speaker, my question, I am sure not unexpectedly, is directed to the Minister of Public Works. Given the situation where the government's minimum figures show that approximately 800 Canadian families per week are losing their homes to high interest rates, the minister indicated yesterday, and I want to quote him accurately, that he would attempt to respond to those cases where there is genuine concern that homes would be in jeopardy. Does this undertaking include, in addition to those 800 families who will lose their homes this week, next week and the week after, families who are already in jeopardy, that is, families whose homes are subject to foreclosure or power of sale action? Second, what is the exact mechanism established by the minister? Is there a special Zenith telephone number, is it open during the weekend and during hours that would accommodate Canadians in all time zones?

Hon. Paul J. Cosgrove (Minister of Public Works): Madam Speaker, I wish the hon. member would quote exactly from *Hansard*. I will read my answer of yesterday:

I will attempt to respond to those cases which are brought to my attention, those cases where there is genuine concern that homes would be in jeopardy before the other financial institutions respond to the Royal Bank initiative or the budget. I would be happy to receive any case from any individual Member of Parliament who is genuinely concerned there is a hazard that the home will be lost.

Those were the words that I used yesterday. I draw to the attention of the hon. member the newspaper clippings that were dropped on my desk. They do not by themselves indicate the text that I just quoted. First, I indicated that I expect