

S.O. 43

That this House, associating itself with the actions of other legislative bodies in the free world to draw attention to the continued defiance by the Soviet Union of the wishes of the international community, declare its intention to designate March 21, 1982, as Afghanistan Day, and that this designation express the determination of this House that continued international efforts must lead to the withdrawal of Soviet troops and the establishment of a fully independent and non-aligned Afghanistan, free from outside interference.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Madam Speaker: The House has heard the terms of the motion. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

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• (1110)

METRIC CONVERSION

IMPOSITION ON STOREKEEPERS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Mel Gass (Malpeque): Madam Speaker, across Canada thousands of merchants are struggling to keep their doors open. This dictatorial government is forcing conversion from imperial to metric scales, at the cost of \$8,000 per scale, a cost which the consumer will end up paying. Therefore I move, seconded by the hon. member for Hillsborough (Mr. McMullan):

That this House condemn the government for driving storekeepers out of business by imposing compulsory metric conversion, and that it immediately respond by making all metric conversion voluntary, as legislated by the House.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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THE ECONOMY

INCREASE IN CONSUMER PRICE INDEX—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Chuck Cook (North Vancouver-Burnaby): Madam Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on behalf of every constituent of North Vancouver-Burnaby and, indeed, every consumer in Canada. The consumer price index for the month of February has now been released and shows that the cost of food has risen from 295.4 to 301.2. The cost of housing has increased from a figure of 242.5 to 244.6, and the over-all increase in what it costs any Canadian to live has now risen from 249.7 to 252.7. On an annual basis this is 11 per cent higher than last year. Therefore I move, seconded by the hon. member for Ontario (Mr. Fennell):

That the House condemn the government for its ineffectual, useless and totally inadequate programs which have allowed the continually creeping cancer of higher prices to destroy Canadian purchasing power and security.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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[Translation]

UNEMPLOYMENT

QUEBEC—PRATT & WHITNEY—REQUEST FOR AGREEMENT ON SHARING OF WORK—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville): Madam Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity, under the provisions of Standing Order 43.

Whereas some days ago, several hundred employees were laid off at Pratt & Whitney in Longueuil and the union is supporting the principle of work sharing in order to help the employees in question, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Kamloops-Shuswap (Mr. Riis):

That the Minister of Labour approach the directors of the company with a view to negotiating a work-sharing agreement with the union.

Madam Speaker: Order, please! This motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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[English]

AGRICULTURE

LIVESTOCK COST RECOVERY PROGRAM—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Doug Neil (Moose Jaw): Madam Speaker, in view of the concern being expressed by the livestock industry regarding the cost recovery program of the Department of Agriculture which would levy a charge for grading carcasses effective April 1, and that such a move could destroy our national grading system, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Malpeque (Mr. Gass):

That the government delay implementation of the cost recovery program and refer the matter to the Standing Committee on Agriculture for study.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.