

Government Orders

the Order Paper for approximately six months has not been answered.

I know that the parliamentary secretary has sent the question back because the staff who were dealing with the question were apparently not able to provide a satisfactory answer to him and therefore it would not have been satisfactory to me either.

Has the parliamentary secretary succeeded in convincing those who prepare the answer for that question that they should provide an adequate answer forthwith so that he can table it in the House, the way I am sure he would want to do?

Mr. Cooper: Mr. Speaker, I will check on it and get back to the hon. member.

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• (1600)

POINT OF ORDER

CHILD TAX CREDIT

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops): Mr. Speaker, I notice that the Parliamentary Secretary to the Government House Leader is in attendance. We are anxious, of course, to begin discussion on Bill C-81, an act to implement the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods at the second reading stage.

I must say, Mr. Speaker, I think we have a near crisis occurring in the country and I want to raise it with my hon. friend as a point of order. We are well aware that in September notices went out to an excess of 60,000 low-income families that child tax credits would be in the mail by mid-November.

Bill C-86 was that legislation and was tabled on October 11—

[*Translation*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): I am sorry, but I do not think that this is a proper matter for a point of order according to our Standing Orders. So, we revert to the Orders of the Day.

Before beginning debate, I must inform you, pursuant to Standing Order 38, that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the hon. member for Moose Jaw—Lake Centre (Mr. Laporte)—Agriculture; the hon. member for Scarborough

West (Mr. Wappel)—Monetary Policy; the hon. member for Renfrew—Nipissing—Pembroke (Mr. Hopkins)—Trade.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*English*]

**INTERNATIONAL SALES OF GOODS
CONTRACTS CONVENTION ACT**

MEASURE TO ENACT

Hon. Doug Lewis (for the Minister of Justice) moved that Bill C-81, an act to implement the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods, be read the second time and referred to a legislative committee.

Mr. Rob Nicholson (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to begin second reading debate on the International Sale of Goods Contracts Convention Act.

The purpose of this bill is to implement the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods thus allowing departments, departmental corporations, and agent Crown corporations to benefit from its provisions. It does so by resorting to the usual practice of giving force of law to the convention which is reproduced in a schedule to the act.

A convention on contracts for the international sale of goods applies to transactions involving the sale of goods for business use between parties whose place of businesses are located in different contracting states.

It establishes a uniform system of rules for the international sale of goods and gives access to legal rules that are compatible with Canadian law.

Implementation of this convention by the International Sale of Goods Contracts Convention Act will permit federal entities to enjoy the three principal benefits of the convention, facilitation of trade, a greater degree of legal certainty in international sales contracts, and greater equity between the parties to an international sales contract.

Federal implementing legislation ensures that all federal entities will be uniformly covered by the regime of the convention.