HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, November 26, 1979

The House met at 2 p.m.

• (1405)

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[Translation]

TOURISM

SUGGESTION U.S. AMEND LEGISLATION ON CONVENTION EXPENSES—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Bernard Loiselle (Verchères): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 43, I ask for the unanimous consent of the House to move a motion dealing with an urgent matter of pressing necessity.

Since the American legislation on the reimbursement of convention expenses, commonly known as section 602, came into effect in January, 1979, Canada has been experiencing annual losses of some \$100 million following the cancellation of many conventions of American organizations which were to be held in Canada. Since then, several private organizations, including the Tourism Industry Association of Canada have made numerous representations to the American government to have that legislation amended. However, no concession has been made by the American authorities, and this is why I move, seconded by the hon. member for Shefford (Mr. Lapierre):

That the government, through the Minister of State for International Trade and minister responsible for tourism (Mr. Wilson) and the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Miss MacDonald), undertake to carry on actively negotiations with the American authorities to have them amend this legislation.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the motion of the hon. member. Pursuant to Standing Order 43, such a motion requires unanimous consent. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

[English]

DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

CALL UPON SOVIET UNION TO RESPECT PRINCIPLE OF REUNIFICATION OF FAMILIES—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Duncan M. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, I rise, under the provisions of Standing Order 43, on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity on a motion which I am sure all hon. members will wish to support.

As we approach the thirty-first anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Windsor West (Mr. Gray) and the hon. member for New Westminster-Coquitlam (Miss Jewett):

That Canada reaffirms its commitment to the principles enunciated in the Third Basket of the Helsinki Accord and calls upon the Soviet Union to respect that principle which calls for reunification of families and to allow all Soviet-Jewish refuseniks to be reunited with their families in Israel or elsewhere, and to further call upon the Soviet Union to release all prisoners of conscience, specifically Anatoly Shcharansky and Ida Nudel.

Mr. Speaker: The presentation of the motion, pursuant to Standing Order 43, can be done only upon the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: The motion has been read to the House. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

• (1410)

HUMAN RIGHTS

BANNING BY SOUTH AFRICA OF CERTAIN HUMANITARIAN PROGRAMS AND AGENCIES—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Bob Ogle (Saskatoon East): Mr. Speaker, I rise, under the provisions of Standing Order 43, to bring a matter of urgent and pressing necessity before the House. On November 1 of this year, the government of the Transkei in the Republic of South Africa issued an order under its public security act banning 34 organizations, including the South Africa Council of Churches, the Dependents' Conference, the World Council of Churches, the Student Christian Movement and the Young Christian Workers.

Since the Transkei government has not been recognized by any government outside South Africa, and since this is, therefore, an illegal action demonstrating that the oppressive policy