

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, November 23, 1981

The House met at 2 p.m.

● (1405)

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

GREY CUP GAME, 1981

OUTCOME OF CLASSIC CANADIAN FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP
FINAL—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Hon. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton North): Madam Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. I move, seconded by the hon. member for Nepean-Carleton (Mr. Baker):

That special status in this nation be entrenched for the Eskimos of Edmonton for their exceptional contribution on Sunday to Canadian football, and that honourable mention be accorded the Rough Riders of Ottawa for their courage, their skill, and their sportsmanship.

Madam Speaker: I suppose the whole House agrees?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

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AGRICULTURE

CALL FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF FIXED INTEREST RATE POLICY
FOR FARMERS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Girve Fretz (Erie): Madam Speaker, aside from the great depression it is impossible to recall a time when Canadian agriculture has suffered such severe and devastating harm, and it is all due to the government's economic mismanagement. Farmers are dependent upon credit, and the high interest rate policy pursued by the Minister of Finance (Mr. MacEachen) has pushed farmers to the wall, to the point where farm bankruptcies have increased 139 per cent in two years. In light of this I move, seconded by the hon. member for Lethbridge-Foothills (Mr. Thacker):

That the Minister of Finance make long-term capital at a fixed rate of interest available to farmers.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

SMALL BUSINESS

APPLICATION OF DEVELOPMENT BOND PROGRAM—MOTION
UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops-Shuswap): Madam Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity to the small business community, including many small farming operations.

Since the government has now limited the use of Small Business Development Bonds to only those businesses and farms in financial difficulty, the number of which is rapidly becoming a majority, and since confusion exists as to just what is meant by "financial difficulty", and just when this new legislation is to become effective, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Spadina (Mr. Heap):

That this House request the Minister of State for Small Businesses and the Minister of Agriculture to issue releases immediately to the financial and small-business communities clarifying the changes to the SBDB as they now relate to both small businesses and small farms.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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AGRICULTURE

SUGGESTION MINISTER SPEAK IN BUDGET DEBATE—MOTION
UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Blaine A. Thacker (Lethbridge-Foothills): Madam Speaker, whereas the Liberal government's energy taxes hit farmers extra hard, and whereas the Liberal government's budget of November 12 abolished income averaging annuities and the capital gains tax reserve, both of which were used to preserve the family farm, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Bow River (Mr. Taylor):

That the Minister of Agriculture speak soon in the budget debate to answer for his failure to prevent the above attacks on the farmers of Canada.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.