

S.O. 31

made an Order for Return, the return would be tabled immediately.

Mr. Speaker: The questions as enumerated by the Parliamentary Secretary have been answered. Is it the pleasure of the House that Question No. 368 be made an Order for Return?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

[Text]

PROJECTS UNDER NATIONAL HOUSING ACT

Question No. 368—**Mr. Heap:**

1. Since January 1, 1985 to date, how many projects were given allocations under Section 56.1 of the National Housing Act and, in each case, what was the name of (a) the project (b) the resource group or developer (c) each person on the Board of Directors?

2. For each such project, what was the (a) number of units to be built and in what city (b) type of housing built (i) co-op (ii) public non-profit (iii) private non-profit (iv) special purpose?

Return tabled.

[English]

Mr. Dick: Mr. Speaker, I ask that the remaining questions be allowed to stand.

Mr. Speaker: Shall the remaining questions stand?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

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MOTIONS UNDER S.O. 31

COLLAPSE OF CANADIAN COMMERCIAL BANK

Mr. Speaker: I have received two notices under Standing Order 31. I propose to take them in the order in which I received them. The Hon. Member for Oshawa (Mr. Broadbent).

Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 31. If you make the correct ruling in a few minutes, I would be pleased to move the appropriate motion. This motion would call for a debate concerning the circumstances flowing from the collapse of the Canadian Commercial Bank. At that time the Opposition will present our serious concerns about all those Canadians who are adversely affected by this failure, and we expect the Government of Canada to give a thorough accounting of the lamentable job it has done in dealing with this extremely serious situation.

● (1530)

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member has given the Chair the proper notice of his intention to seek leave of the House to move a motion under the provisions of Standing Order 31. The matter that he wishes to debate is, of course, a matter of great interest, not only to the banking community, but I am sure to all Canadians.

Standing Order 31(5) directs the Chair to take account of two main criteria in order to determine whether the request for leave should be granted. First, the Chair must determine that the matter is within the administrative responsibilities of the Government. Second, and more importantly in this case, the Chair must consider the probability of the matter being brought before the House within reasonable time by other means.

In the present circumstances, on April 18, 1975, the House charged the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs to inquire into the regulation of Canada's financial institutions and on June 26 last the House instructed the same committee to make its final report by October 30, 1985.

Furthermore, the Finance Committee has scheduled a meeting for 3:30 p.m. this day and the Minister of State for Finance (Mrs. McDougall) is scheduled to appear on that particular order of reference. For the Chair at this time to ignore that Members of the House are considering that matter in committee would not only be a violation of our precedents, but a violation of the very specific limitation imposed on the Chair by Standing Order 31(5). I do not think it proper, therefore, at this time to allow the request for leave while the matter is and can be considered by a committee of the House.

The Hon. Member for Trinity (Miss Nicholson) gave a notice of a similar question. She may wish to make her case.

Miss Aideen Nicholson (Trinity): Mr. Speaker, in accordance with Standing Order 31, I too, ask leave to move that this House do now adjourn for the purpose of discussing a specific and important matter requiring urgent consideration, namely the failure of the Canadian Commercial Bank and the Government activities in relation thereto. Mr. Speaker, I would suggest respectfully that the failure of the Bank, the Government's decision to put it into liquidation in the last few days, is a separate matter from the order of reference previously given and, therefore, I ask you to consider this request.

Mr. Speaker: When the Hon. Member reads what I said in response to the Hon. Member for Oshawa (Mr. Broadbent) she will find that it is a very tight ruling. The Chair is given the power to simply say yes or no to these questions without comment.

An Hon. Member: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: I am not sure whether that was a suggestion that I should say yes without comment or no without comment, but I will take it that it really meant without comment. I am trying to convey to the Hon. Member that the Chair takes extremely seriously the representations made on this question. I invite her to read precisely what I have already said.