

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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ENERGY

PRICE OF GASOLINE—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Dan McKenzie (Winnipeg-Assiniboine): Madam Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43. In his Christmas householder the hon. member for Scarborough West (Mr. Weatherhead) appears to have inadvertently misinformed his constituents when he said that gas prices will have gone up by only 13.3 cents a gallon by the end of this year. Given the fact that the cheap gas promised by the Liberal government has not materialized because gas prices at the pump have gone up as much as 40 cents a gallon since last December, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Peterborough (Mr. Domm):

That this House instruct the hon. member for Scarborough West to correct the obvious error in his Christmas greeting so that no further misunderstandings arise.

Madam Speaker: For presentation, this motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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THE ECONOMY

TABLING OF PLANS TO FIGHT INFLATION—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Doug Lewis (Simcoe North): Madam Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity under the provisions of Standing Order 43. Whereas Ministry of Finance officials have admitted that the inflation forecast for 1980 of 9.7 per cent used in the budget was too low, and whereas the Minister of State for Finance (Mr. Bussières) is on record as stating that the government will take the measures necessary to stay within the forecast inflation rate increase, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Prince George-Bulkley Valley (Mr. McCuish):

That this government immediately table its plans to fight inflation for the balance of 1980, in keeping with its commitment.

Madam Speaker: For presentation, this motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Oral Questions

POST OFFICE

REPORTED APPOINTMENT OF POSTMASTER IN BOW RIVER CONSTITUENCY—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Sid Parker (Kootenay East-Revelstoke): Madam Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. In light of the recent disclosure in the media that an unqualified resident of the Bow River constituency was recently hired as a postmaster in that region on the recommendation of her Conservative member of Parliament, a political friend and ally, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Hovdebo):

That this House demand that the Postmaster General explain why the hon. member for Bow River is now in a position to appoint the relatives of campaign workers as postmasters, and especially that he be asked to comment on reports that these special considerations are being provided to the hon. member for Bow River in order that he might follow in the footsteps of his former colleague, the Hon. Jack Horner.

Madam Speaker: The presentation of this motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

● (1415)

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

NATIONAL RESOURCES

INDIRECT TAXATION OF RENEWABLE RESOURCES—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Hon. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Madam Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources and the minister responsible for the constitution, the Minister of Justice, may I direct my question to the Deputy Prime Minister. The Prime Minister, in his letter to the Leader of the New Democratic Party on October 20, indicated that the government was prepared "to give the provinces the right to levy indirect taxation on non-renewable resources".

My question to the Deputy Prime Minister is whether it is now the position of the Government of Canada that it is prepared to extend this offer to include renewable resources, specifically hydroelectric power, and, if so, has this been officially communicated to the provinces?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance): Madam Speaker, I am not aware of what has been communicated to the provinces on this subject. I understand that the Minister of Justice did make a statement to that effect before the joint committee. The hon. member will know more about the proceedings than I because I am not a member of that committee.