HOUSE OF COMMONS

Thursday, November 4, 1982

The House met at 2 p.m.

• (1405)

MOTIONS UNDER S.O. 43

[English]

HUMAN RIGHTS

SOVIET AUTHORITIES URGED TO FREE ANATOLY SHCHARANSKY

Hon. Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Madam Speaker, I rise to move a motion under the provisions of Standing Order 43. The harassment and imprisonment of Anatoly Shcharansky have been the subject of previous emergency motions in this House. Mr. Shcharansky, a leading Soviet refusenik and internationally renowned scholar, has been on a hunger strike for several weeks, as a means to obtaining his freedom. His rapidly deteriorating health now places his life in very grave danger. Therefore I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Don Valley West (Mr. Bosley):

That this House urge Soviet authorities to immediately grant Anatoly Shcharansky the freedom for which he is so valiantly struggling, thus ending his hunger strike and the grave threat to his life. The Soviet authorities should do this, both for humanitarian reasons, and in accordance with the terms of the Helsinki Final Act.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Madam Speaker: The House has heard the terms of the motion. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

THE MEMBER FOR BRANDON-SOURIS

BEST WISHES FOR RECOVERY OF HEALTH

Mr. David Smith (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Madam Speaker, I rise pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. Whereas our colleague, the Hon. Walter Dinsdale, a Member of this House from Brandon-Souris for over 30 consecutive years, suffered a serious stroke this past summer, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for Oxford (Mr. Halliday) and the Hon. Member for Beaches (Mr. Young):

That this House convey to the Hon. Walter Dinsdale our very best wishes for a complete recovery and a successful return to the House.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Madam Speaker: The House has heard the terms of the motion. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

AGRICULTURE

PRESERVATION OF AGRICULTURAL LANDS

Mr. Arnold Malone (Crowfoot): Madam Speaker, I rise to move a motion under the provisions of Standing Order 43. Since there is one acre of agricultural land for every citizen on earth, and whereas we in Canada enjoy the luxury of three acres of agricultural land for every Canadian, but because we are destroying our food producing lands at a rate whereby we will be left with only three-quarters of an acre of farm land per Canadian citizen by the year 2005, and since Canada has no co-ordinated effort toward preservation of agricultural lands, I move, seconded by the Hon. Member for London-Middlessex (Mr. Bloomfield) and the Hon. Member for Humboldt-Lake Centre (Mr. Althouse):

That this Parliament encourage the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of the Environment to cause appropriate consultation with provincial governments and Canadian soil scientists, bearing in mind the provincial nature of this issue, and seek their co-operation to establish an umbrella agency whose objective is to preserve and improve agricultural lands in Canada.

Madam Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for this motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: No.