

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, May 30, 1978

The House met at 2 p.m.

● (1407)

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

ENERGY

FORMATION AND FUNDING OF MARITIME ENERGY CORPORATION—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Joe Clark (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. My motion concerns the critically high electricity rates now being paid by residents of the province of Nova Scotia. The Nova Scotia Board of Public Utilities has received an application from the Nova Scotia Power Corporation for a rate increase of 25 per cent which, if approved, would take effect this July and make the cost of electricity in that province the highest in Canada. Therefore, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Central Nova (Mr. MacKay):

That this government take immediate steps to expedite the formation and funding of the Maritime Energy Corporation; and that this government consult with provincial governments in Atlantic Canada on an urgent basis to get construction started on a power grid to utilize the resources of Newfoundland and Labrador for hard-pressed Nova Scotia.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The introduction of such a motion for debate at this time requires unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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OFFICIAL SECRETS ACT

CALL FOR AMENDMENT TO PROHIBIT SECRET TRIALS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion under Standing Order 43 which I earnestly hope will receive the unanimous support of this House. I move, seconded by the hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby (Mr. Brodbent):

That this House associates itself with the hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin) in his insistence that the trial of a public servant in secret is intolerable

and that the Official Secrets Act should be amended forthwith to make secret trials thereunder impossible.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Such a motion for debate can be presented only with the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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[Translation]

FINANCE

QUEBEC SALES TAX—REQUESTED DEFERRAL OF SECOND READING OF BILL C-56—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Eudore Allard (Rimouski): Mr. Speaker, under the provisions of Standing Order 43, I ask for the unanimous consent of the House to introduce a motion dealing with an important matter of pressing necessity.

Considering that all political parties in the Quebec legislature, all members of the opposition as well as several Liberal members strongly object to the formula suggested by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Chrétien) concerning the provincial sales tax, and considering that the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) has stated that he was prepared to meet his provincial counterpart to find a fair solution to that dispute, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Bellechasse (Mr. Lambert):

That this House urge the government to accept the amendment moved by the hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby, namely that Bill C-56 be not now read a second time, but that it be read a second time this day one month hence, so as to pave the way for a solution between both governments concerning that dispute about the provincial sales tax.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The House has heard the motion of the hon. member. Under the provisions of Standing Order 43, this motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.