

FINANCE

UNFULFILLED ORDERS FOR OLYMPIC COINS—MOTION UNDER
S.O. 43

Mr. Gordon Towers (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgency under the provisions of Standing Order 43. In view of the fact that Canadians have been defrauded of over \$100,000 through undelivered, prepaid Olympic coin orders purchased in good faith under a federal program, and in view of the fact that according to an answer to question No. 1,319 on April 7, gold coins on hand will be melted, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Parry Sound-Muskoka (Mr. Darling):

That the government accept responsibility for the coin dealers who failed to meet their commitments and follow the honourable procedure of supplying coins for the unfilled orders.

Mr. Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for the presentation of such a motion for debate?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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FISHERIES

REGULATIONS RESPECTING INSHORE FISHERMEN—MOTION
UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 43. Since many Canadian inshore fishermen are complaining bitterly that regulations without consultation affecting their operations are proliferating with greater rapidity than the fish upon which they depend, I move, seconded by the hon. member for South Shore (Mr. Crouse):

That recent fisheries regulations regarding seasons for scallop dragging, changes in size of mesh in nets utilized in dragging for groundfish, and other such measures, be suspended until further input is received from those fishermen affected and more account taken of the varying conditions in regions affected, rather than imposing blanket regulations which do not take into account local conditions and differences in seasons.

Mr. Speaker: Such a motion, for discussion, pursuant to Standing Order 43, would require the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Oral Questions

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

FISHERIES

POLICY STATEMENT ON REOPENING OF ATLANTIC PORTS TO
FOREIGN FISHING VESSELS

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): Mr. Speaker, it is a matter of some regret that the Minister of Fisheries and the Environment and the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce are not in their seats this afternoon. Therefore, I direct my question to the Prime Minister. It flows out of a major policy statement made by the Minister of Fisheries and the Environment late last week, in which he set forth the terms and conditions under which Canada would reopen its Atlantic ports to foreign fishing vessels.

I ask the Prime Minister why the government chose to make one-half of the major policy statement and not couple it or pair it with a similar statement from the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Commerce and/or DREE with respect to the upgrading of our ports and, particularly, the upgrading of the capacity of our ports to deal with this increased ship repair and related activity.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): I take it, Mr. Speaker, that the hon. member is supporting the policy announcement made by the minister but is saying that it is not quite enough. I will convey the representations of the hon. member to the minister.

Mr. Forrestall: Mr. Speaker, this needs conveying to no one other than the Prime Minister. Would he convey at that time the concern of the people in the fishing industry and in the ports and port-related industries of eastern Canada that the Minister of Fisheries, in this major policy thrust, did not extend his thinking to include a definitive plan for the expansion and upgrading of our existing fishing fleet?

● (1417)

Some 10,000 jobs are involved. These should be given to Canadians to fish our own species, in our own boats registered in Canada and carrying Canadian crews. Why were these two matters not coupled? Would the Prime Minister make that representation as strongly as possible to his colleague?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I think the House will recognize that this type of representation is hardly necessary. We have a Minister of Fisheries who is highly respected in the industry and who has the confidence of the fishermen. I would have to refresh my memory on the exact statement made by the minister. However, I would remind the hon. member that the first minister's conference in mid-February had something very specific on the fisheries, and of the fact that the federal government was successful in getting international support for the 200-mile limit and the provinces and the federal government were unanimous about the action that should be taken both provincially and federally. Of course, they included some suggestions along the lines made by the hon. member.