

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the terms of the motion proposed by the hon. member for Fundy-Royal (Mr. Corbett) and seconded by the hon. member for Nepean-Carleton (Mr. Baker). Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.
Motion agreed to.

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ECONOMIC COUNCIL OF CANADA

REPORT OF COUNCIL THAT INCREASED PRICES OF ENERGY WILL HAVE DISCRIMINATORY EFFECTS ON EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Terry Sargeant (Selkirk-Interlake): Mr. Speaker, I rise, under the provisions of Standing Order 43, on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity.

In view of the fact that the report of the Economic Council of Canada released last week states that higher-priced energy could reduce the unemployment rate because secondary workers—by which the council means primarily women—would leave the labour force, and in view of the fact that in the Speech from the Throne the government promised a full employment strategy for women, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Vancouver East (Mrs. Mitchell):

That this government move quickly to introduce programs that will effectively counteract the discriminatory effects on employment for women that the Economic Council of Canada has predicted will result from higher energy prices.

Mr. Speaker: Is there unanimous consent for the introduction of this motion for debate at this time?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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[Translation]

SOCIAL SECURITY

REQUEST CERTAIN MINISTERS BE ADMITTED TO INNER CABINET—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 43 I seek the unanimous consent of the House on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity.

There are in Canada over two million senior citizens, 700,000 unemployed and seven million people whose income is under \$10,000 a year. Unfortunately, these poor people are represented only by back-row or second-class ministers—the Minister of National Health and Welfare, the Minister of Labour and the Minister of Employment and Immigration—who are not part of the inner cabinet which takes the main

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decisions such as those having to do now with the oil price increase. We are all aware of the serious consequences this decision will have on the low and medium wage-earners who will be the first to be affected by this increase and who will lack the necessary income to meet it.

Therefore I move, seconded by the hon. member for Verdun (Mr. Savard):

That the Prime Minister appoint forthwith these three ministers to the inner cabinet in order that they may defend the interests of low income citizens and fight against excessive oil price hikes.

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to Standing Order 43, this motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

ENERGY

AVAILABILITY OF OIL SUPPLIES TO MEET NEEDS THIS WINTER

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Cape Breton Highlands-Canso): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. He will be aware that the National Energy Board, on Friday, released an up to date assessment of oil supplies in Canada, especially looking toward the winter months.

● (1415)

In view of the disquieting statement contained in the report, to the effect that there is no certainty that Canadians will be free from oil supply problems this winter—including home heating oil—will the minister, in light of this most up to date reassessment of our situation, tell us what fresh steps he is contemplating to ensure that Canadians, particularly those in Atlantic Canada and Quebec, will have the certainty of oil supplies this winter? That is the issue at stake. Canadians are entitled to know with certainty that oil supplies will be provided for this winter.

Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I take issue with the emphasis which the hon. member has placed on the press release of the National Energy Board. The report indicated that we would see ourselves through this winter, notwithstanding the rather unfortunate position that the previous administration left us in with respect to the supply situation in Canada.

The hon. member knows full well, as a member of that administration, that when this government came into office we