

*Finance*

communities, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Portage (Mr. Masnuik):

That instructions be issued immediately by the minister to have this unacceptable situation rectified.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Such a motion pursuant to Standing Order 43 requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. Members:** No.

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**ATOMIC ENERGY OF CANADA LIMITED**

PROPOSAL TO INVESTIGATE PAYMENT OF COMMISSIONS TO AGENTS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

**Mr. Derek Blackburn (Brant):** Mr. Speaker, I too, rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of pressing and urgent necessity. It arises also out of the Auditor General's report tabled in the House yesterday citing highly questionable payments totalling over \$10 million paid to agents who negotiated sales of nuclear generating stations to foreign countries on behalf of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited. I move, seconded by the hon. member for Oshawa-Whitby (Mr. Broadbent):

That the government immediately launch a public inquiry to investigate thoroughly these highly irregular financial activities of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The presentation of such a motion would require the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. Members:** No.

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[*Translation*]

**FINANCE**

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR EACH PROVINCE—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

**Mr. René Matte (Champlain):** Pursuant to Standing Order 43, Mr. Speaker, I seek the unanimous consent of the House to discuss a matter of urgent and pressing necessity.

Given the new situation arising from the results of the recent Quebec elections, the somewhat imminent referendum on separation, and the necessity for all Canadians to be objectively provided with statistical data so they may better assess the circumstances, favourable or not to creating a sovereign state in Quebec, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Villeneuve (Mr. Caouette):

That the government establish an objective and precise balance sheet of all federal incomes (taxes, levies royalties, etc.) originating from each of the Canadian provinces and territories, as well as the expenses (operation, invest-

[Mr. Smith (Churchill).]

ments, grants, pensions, etc.) incurred within the geographical limits of each of these provinces and territories.

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

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. Members:** No.

**Mr. Speaker:** There is not unanimous consent; the motion therefore cannot be put.

● (1410)

**ORAL QUESTION PERIOD**

[*English*]

**GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION**

SUGGESTED IMMEDIATE IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF AUDITOR GENERAL—GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the President of the Treasury Board. In light of the Auditor General's statement to the effect that taxpayers' dollars demand that something be done right now, and since the royal commission could delay necessary corrective action for two or three years, would the minister not consider it advisable at this time to implement the most important recommendation of the Auditor General, namely, the establishment of a chief financial officer and a fundamental restructuring of the Treasury Board secretariat, particularly during the long period between now and the time the royal commission reports, since this in the mind of the Auditor General is crucial to the establishment of an adequate financial management and control system in the government of Canada?

**Hon. Robert K. Andras (President of the Treasury Board):** Mr. Speaker, on Friday last I tabled a comprehensive progress report on all the measures I have implemented and am about to implement to reassure hon. members and ourselves of the very serious consideration given the concerns expressed by the Auditor General. I tried my best yesterday to indicate to the House, and I reiterate, that the establishment at this stage of a comptroller general, as recommended, has certain appeals and attractions to us, but it does unquestionably—and I think some hon. members when they reflect upon this will agree—begin to change the accountability picture.

**An hon. Member:** There is none now.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**An hon. Member:** Maybe for the better.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!