

the fact Ford's net profits after taxes for the first quarter of 1973 were up 62 per cent from the first quarter of last year whereas sales increased by only 27 per cent, indicating a much higher per unit profit, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Regina-Lake Centre (Mr. Benjamin):

That this House instruct the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce to meet forthwith with representatives of Ford of Canada to inform that company that a 25 per cent rate of return on equity is excessive, to urge a complete reconsideration of the announced price increases and to impress upon them the government's determination to eliminate the unjustified price differential between Canada and the United States.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimity.

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#### OFFICIAL LANGUAGES ACT

##### AMENDMENT RESPECTING MINORITY LANGUAGES

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-200, to amend the Official Languages Act.

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Yewchuk: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this amendment is to ensure that the Official Languages Act does not have the effect, either directly or indirectly, of restricting or in any way limiting the current status or future growth of any of the minority languages.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

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#### CANADIAN BILL OF RIGHTS

##### AMENDMENT GUARANTEEING RIGHT TO CANADIANS TO SPEAK ANY LANGUAGE OR ADOPT ANY CULTURE THEY WISH

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-201, to amend the Canadian Bill of Rights.

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Yewchuk: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this amendment is to provide that the Canadian Bill of Rights explicitly sets out and guarantees Canadians the absolute right to speak any languages they may wish, regardless of the universality of such languages, and to guarantee them the absolute right to adopt as a style of life any culture, or part thereof, contributing to the Canadian mosaic.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

#### Oral Questions

#### PENSION ACT

##### INCREASE IN AMOUNTS OF PAYMENTS

Hon. Daniel J. MacDonald (Minister of Veterans Affairs) moved for leave to introduce Bill C-202, to amend the Pension Act.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

#### ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

#### STATUS OF WOMEN

##### GOVERNMENT POLICY RESPECTING AWARDING OF CONTRACTS TO FIRMS NOT OFFERING EQUAL PAY AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister. Does the government support in principle the proposal that the government withdraw contracts from firms that do not offer women equal pay and equal employment opportunities, which was the subject matter of a resolution passed by the National Council of Women?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I would have to inquire as to that; I do not have the answer offhand.

Mr. Fairweather: Would the government review its contracting policy to ensure that such practices do become in fact the policy of the government?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, I will certainly draw that very constructive suggestion to the attention of the Minister of Labour who is studying the whole area of the involvement of women in employment.

Mr. G. W. Baldwin (Peace River): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. If the right hon. gentleman, after that due deliberation and careful consideration he thinks the subject deserves, comes to the conclusion that the government should undertake such a policy, would he consider putting before the House a sense of the House resolution, the value of which he discovered in connection with the recent resolution concerning bilingualism which was dealt with by the House?

Mr. Trudeau: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

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● (1420)

#### ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

##### APPLICATION BY GOVERNMENT FOR WRIT OF PROHIBITION AGAINST PROCEEDINGS CONDUCTED BY MR. JUSTICE MORROW—REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL

Mr. Wally Firth (Northwest Territories): Mr. Speaker, having returned only a few days ago from the Northwest