

[Translation]

AIR TRANSPORT

PROPOSED PUBLIC INQUIRY INTO ACQUISITION OF NORDAIR BY AIR CANADA—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, under the provisions of Standing Order 43, I seek the unanimous consent of the House to move a motion dealing with an important matter of pressing necessity.

Since the application of Air Canada to purchase Nordair has been followed by a combine investigation and since Mr. Robert J. Bertrand, director of investigations and research at the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs published yesterday a press release in which he states his concern about the very large concentration in the air transport industry as a result of that purchase application, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Villeneuve (Mr. Caouette):

That this house discuss that possibility and direct the government and the Canadian Transport Commission to hold public hearings to explain that purchase application by Air Canada.

Mr. Speaker: Order. In accordance with the terms of Standing Order 43, such a motion can be presented for debate only with the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

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[English]

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

LEGISLATION RESPECTING PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENT FOR CHILD MOLESTERS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mrs. Ursula Appolloni (York South): Mr. Speaker, I wish to present a motion, under Standing Order 43, on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. At the present time, when a person has been convicted of a child molesting offence and commits a similar offence while on probation, the court does not have authority to place the offender in a psychiatric institution for the duration of the period of probation. The view of many of those involved in the administration of justice is that the courts should have this authority. I therefore seek the unanimous consent of the House to move the following motion, seconded by the hon. member for Scarborough West (Mr. Martin):

That the government introduce legislation to provide that when a convicted child molester commits a similar offence while on probation, the court may place that person in a psychiatric institution for the duration of the period of probation.

Mr. Speaker: Presentation of such a motion for discussion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

Oral Questions

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

FINANCE

VALUE OF CANADIAN DOLLAR—MINISTER'S STATEMENT OUTSIDE HOUSE

Mr. Joe Clark (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, my question—if he will return to his place—is for the Minister of Finance. I should like to ask the minister why he said one thing here in the House of Commons relative to government policy concerning the dollar, and later, outside this House, made a contrary statement.

● (1417)

I would also like the Minister of Finance to tell the House of Commons why, when he made a statement outside the House which directly contradicted one he had made here, he did not have enough courtesy toward the Parliament of Canada or the people to come into the House of Commons and ask for an opportunity to make a statement on motions, which would have been granted by this side and would have allowed the minister to be subjected to questions about the very vague and troubling statement he issued last night?

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, yesterday I explained to the House the policies of the government, which remain the same.

An hon. Member: You did not.

Mr. Chrétien: The announcement I made was after the closing of the market. I would have expected the Leader of the Opposition to understand there is a market in this field and that I had to wait until it closed to make this announcement. With regard to any announcement of the borrowing intentions of the government, we do not come to the House of Commons to make these statements. So there was absolutely nothing improper in what I did. Of course, the exchange rate of the dollar is always a very delicate matter, and I would expect the opposition to show some responsibility about these things rather than to start with doom and gloom presentations which annoy the people.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Chrétien: Yesterday, Mr. Speaker, I was amazed to hear one member of the opposition tell the House that I was protecting the dollar too much and other members telling the House I was not protecting it enough. I have done the proper thing, and the policy remains the same as the one I enunciated yesterday.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Clark: Mr. Speaker, the minister has a curious view, if he thinks that the markets of the country allow him, or somehow condone the act of giving the House of Commons information which is false. Also, of course, he did not answer the question.