

*Double Taxation Treaties*

Telecom has stated that his corporation, a subsidiary of Bell Canada, has threatened to shift a major portion of its operations to the United States due to the business climate; whereas Northern Telecom is the major supplier of communications equipment to Bell Canada, and as such is a major contributor to costs that Bell passes on to telephone subscribers; and whereas the proposed shift would have very severe economic and employment repercussions for this country, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Brant (Mr. Blackburn):

● (1410)

That Bell Canada and its subsidiary Northern Telecom be placed under full public ownership and operated as a public utility to ensure both employment for Canadian workers and an export capability in communications technology for this country.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The introduction of such motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. Members:** No.

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**INCOME TAX****SUGGESTED PARLIAMENTARY REVIEW OF TAXATION TREATIES PRIOR TO RATIFICATION—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43**

**Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Simcoe):** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity under the provisions of Standing Order 43. Whereas this House is currently considering a series of bills dealing with double taxation treaties with several countries, which bills cover transactions involving several billions of dollars; whereas the government is currently negotiating such a treaty with the United States which will certainly be the most important of these treaties; and whereas this government has consistently circumvented the spirit of parliamentary review of such treaties before finalization both in this House and in committee, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Vancouver Quadra (Mr. Clarke):

That this House deplores the attempts of this administration to reduce parliament to a rubber stamp and requests the Minister of Finance to provide a reference so that there may be a full and meaningful review during negotiation of such treaties, particularly in respect of the current treaty with the United States.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The introduction of such motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. Members:** No.

[Mr. Symes.]

**ORAL QUESTION PERIOD**

[English]

**THE CANADIAN ECONOMY****MINISTER'S FORECAST OF RATE OF GROWTH—CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED EXPENDITURE CUTS AND TAX CREDITS**

**Mr. Sinclair Stevens (York-Simcoe):** Mr. Speaker, may I direct my first question to the Minister of Finance? In response to the question I put to the minister yesterday concerning his budgetary forecast of a 5 per cent real growth in the economy this year, the minister said that the experience in Canada will very likely parallel the experience in the rest of the OECD countries. As it has now been indicated that such expectations may be down considerably, that average real growth may only be 3.5 per cent, will the minister indicate what is his current forecast regarding the rate of growth in the Canadian economy?

**Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, I do not think it would be wise of me to do that particularly before the third quarter results have been received.

**Mr. Stevens:** Mr. Speaker, may I direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Finance? In view of our sagging economy in which over three quarters of a million people are out of work and in view of the minister's "I'm all right Jack" attitude as revealed yesterday—

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

**Mr. Stevens:** —an attitude revealed in his reply yesterday—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member has already put forward a lengthy and unacceptable preamble to his supplementary question.

**Mr. Stevens:** Mr. Speaker, would the minister indicate if he reviewed the suggestions made last May by my party with respect to certain tax expenditure cuts with regard to federal spending amounting to about \$1 billion? If so, will he indicate if he also gave consideration to our proposal last May of a 10 per cent tax credit to those earning \$8,000 a year or less and a scaled down credit for those earning between \$8,000 and \$16,000, a proposal made basically because it was anticipated that a 26 per cent income tax increase—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member for Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands.

**Mr. Stevens:** Ten o'clock, Mr. Speaker.