Supply

There were lots of indications of suppliers being around who are going to make reinvestments and grow as a result of this investment. Therefore they can bid for work in the United States because their whole operations will have risen up to the kind of performance level where they can export at lower prices.

I think the hon. member has suggested an important point. A large investment such as Chrysler does give confidence to small and medium sized suppliers. It makes them more competitive. This means jobs are created because they can export and so on. That is one of the good results from that announcement.

I also have to tell the hon. member that Windsor is a hard-working town. Ever since I was a kid, people of this town have worked hard. Windsor has always been an up and down kind of economy. It is a boom and bust economy that rotates around the automotive part of the economy. This will help give them confidence.

I actually salute the Chrysler people who won the Canada awards of business excellence in 1991 for quality. This great big banner is hanging outside the front door. They are very proud of it. They are just as proud of it as a small little company that wins that award. They are an example to the rest of Canada.

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES RESTRAINT ACT, 1993 NO. 2

NOTICE OF ALLOCATION OF TIME TO CONSIDER REPORT AND THIRD READING STAGES OF BILL C-113

Hon. Tom Hockin (Minister for Science and Minister of State (Small Businesses and Tourism)): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. An agreement could not be reached under the provisions of Standing Order 78(1) or (2), with respect to report stage and third reading of Bill C-113, an act to provide for government expenditure restraint.

Under the provisions of Standing Order 78(3), I give notice of my intention to move a time allocation motion at the next sitting of the House for the purpose of allotting a specified number of days or hours for the consideration and disposal of proceedings at the said stages.

• (1645)

SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY, S. O. 81-THE ECONOMY

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Bevilacqua.

Mr. Steve Butland (Sault Ste. Marie): Mr. Speaker, first of all I want to congratulate the minister for his speech. I think he was very sincere in what he said and I encourage him to make an important announcement tomorrow. Certainly he has my support.

Having said that though, he talked about the celebration the country should embark upon. I was just wondering what exactly the details of that celebration would be when I look at the state of the economy as of March 1993. I see the unemployment rate is still above 11 per cent. I see the welfare rolls are at 3.8 million. I see the number of people living in poverty is at 4.2 million. Not to worry, because I understand one of the government members has suggested we just move the poverty line higher to make it harder to qualify as that would make fewer people below the poverty level. Bankruptcies were at 5,401 in January. The good news is they are starting to drop. They were 18 per cent below the level of a year ago but last year, with 76,139, was still the highest in Canadian history.

Economic growth was 0.9 per cent in 1992, a bit of good news: inflation was 2.0 per cent in January. But we have suggested all along that the government wrestled inflation to the ground and wrestled the entire economy to the ground as well.

Before we get into fits of euphoria, as the minister has suggested perhaps we should do, I would ask him to take a look at the real statistics. Take a look at the real world in Canada. I do not think the euphoria will have spread to ordinary Canadians.

Coming from Ontario, these are indeed difficult times. The Ontario New Democrats are also taking the brunt of criticism from just about everybody. I want to say that some of the statistics are never brought forward. I want to take the opportunity of putting them on the record. The federal government in some sense of misguided co-operation has continually short-changed the province of Ontario. The numbers and statistics bear out this fact.