

benefits paid out are unduly high. Under the Canada Assistance Plan, the Federal Government pays 50 per cent of all provincial welfare benefits, and those expenditures are expected to increase by \$558 million. The Home Ownership Stimulation Plan has been so successful that we will spend \$240 million more than expected this year, and that will spur the housing and construction industry. I would not say that the Government is spending money as if it were going out of style, Mr. Speaker! For established programs financing, hospital insurance, health insurance and post-secondary education, the government spent \$5.4 billion in 1982-83 and will spend this year \$6.6 billion, or \$1.2 billion more than last year.

I would like to take this opportunity to denounce the hypocrisy of the Opposition. I recall that when we were discussing the renewal of the financial arrangements last spring, all Opposition Members criticized the Government for being too hard on the provinces and for not granting them enough fiscal transfers, which, they claimed, would enable the provinces to assume their responsibilities. If we had listened to them, we would have added billions of dollars to the budgetary deficit.

Mr. Speaker, our budgetary deficit is obviously substantial. We must not try to hide this fact and we must be honest, but it seems to me that in view of the very high level of savings in Canada—and we know that Canadians now save 13 per cent of their available personal income—and, most importantly since, as long as the process of economic recovery has not begun more fully, the private sector is not very active on the capital market, the Government is essentially only taking over for the private sector and I am convinced that the private and public sectors will not compete on the capital market to the point that it would cause interest rates to increase.

Mr. Speaker, when I say that the public sector is taking over, and I know that provincial governments must also do their share, it means for instance that over \$2 billion were spent these last few months on job creation programs. Of course, this is reflected in the deficit, but would the federal government act responsibly if it left the unemployed to their fate, especially in cases where they have exhausted their benefits and must go on welfare?

Mr. Speaker, I think that there is an attempt to dramatize the budgetary deficit. In the case of Canada, between 90 and 95 per cent of the national debt, the Government debt, is owed to Canadians, which means essentially that it is owed by Canadians to themselves.

Mr. Speaker, since my time has nearly expired, I would like to invite the Government to act as quickly as possible. I believe that the Opposition Members have had quite enough time. They have had a reasonable opportunity to explain the reasons for their opposition to the bill, however unfounded they might be. In a democratic system, they have the right to explain their reasons for not agreeing and for objecting to the granting of a borrowing power to the Government. In my opinion, the time

Time Allocation

has come to take whatever means are necessary to put an end to this debate, so that we might continue to work at solving the economic problems of Canada through other legislative proposals.

• (1600)

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[*Translation*]

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Corbin): Order. It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 45, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the Hon. Member for Winnipeg-Assiniboine (Mr. McKenzie)—Bilingualism—(a) Special recruitment of francophones for employment in civil service (b) Effect on English-speaking Canadians; the Hon. Member for Erie (Mr. Fretz)—Environmental Affairs—(a) Pollution of Niagara River—Proposed action by province of Ontario (b) Access to information on dump hazards; the Hon. Member for Skeena (Mr. Fulton)—Aboriginal Rights—Possible effect of Gulf Oil development in Northern Yukon.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*English*]

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

ALLOCATION OF TIME TO CONSIDER SECOND READING STAGE OF BILL C-143

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Cosgrove:

That, in relation to Bill C-143, an Act to provide supplementary borrowing authority, one additional sitting day shall be allotted to the consideration of the second reading stage of the Bill; and

That 15 minutes before the expiry of the time provided for Government business on that day, all proceedings before the House shall be interrupted, if required, for the purpose of this Order and, in turn, every question then necessary in order to dispose of that stage shall be put forthwith and successively, without further debate or amendment.

Mr. Bill Domm (Peterborough): Mr. Speaker, today we are objecting not just to limiting debate but to closure on a very important matter dealing with borrowing by the Government without the information that is necessary in order to make an honest judgment on the matter. I was amazed when the Hon. Member for Montmorency-Orléans (Mr. Duclos) said that the deficit of the Government was expected to be somewhere in the neighbourhood—and I stand to be corrected—of \$30 billion. I have not heard that figure from the Government benches