

Fisher) knows what they are. We have laid them out time and time again over the last couple of weeks, so that no one today can stand up and say that the New Democratic Party does not have an economic recovery program.

The economic programs that we have suggested that would result in a move to recovery would not cause a significantly increased deficit. We feel that the scope exists for the reallocation of funds, that present expenditures are no longer appropriate. Those existing expenditures must be reallocated into more productive capacity development, into areas that will result in return. In other words, this will move some of the present government spending, which obviously is in the budget, into some investment areas. That would invest in the future, so that even in terms of the recovery program that we propose we are not talking of additional government expenditures to any significant degree. It would include an immediate stimulus to our economic situation. It would put many of the tradesmen in the housing sector back to work immediately. It would provide an incentive to manufacturing firms right across the country that serve that particular industry. It would also provide a market for our timber products and put a large number of our forest workers back to work as well.

● (1650)

That is the kind of immediate program we advocate. Of course, the longer-term program would be to negotiate with multinational companies operating in this country. Multinational companies are a reality and will be for many years to come, but we should negotiate production agreements with those companies. If they are to have a market in this country, they should provide jobs in this country.

The Japanese auto industry is a case in point. If we are to be driving 200,000 additional Japanese vehicles each year, let us negotiate with the Japanese auto industry so that the Japanese source their parts and components in Canada and assemble vehicles in Canada as well. If this is not done at the rate of 100 per cent, then perhaps 85 per cent or 75 per cent would be acceptable; but for goodness sake let us negotiate jobs for profits with multinational companies. It would not be asking for anything particularly different. Most of the countries of the world already do that. We are simply asking that we behave as most progressive nations in the world behave today.

With respect to government procurement, I know the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs (Mr. Ouellet) occasionally outlines the government's policies. The Minister of State for Small Businesses and Tourism (Mr. Lapointe) says the government is encouraging small business. That is rhetoric. It sounds great in speeches, but when it comes down to the actual fact, the procurement policies of the federal government are abysmal. They simply do not provide the support and encouragement they could provide.

In closing, I would simply like to say that the people of Canada no longer want statements from the Minister of Finance. We are being asked to support \$6.6 billion in additional government expenditures. The people of Canada want to see how it will be invested and how it will be used. They want a

realistic statement from the Minister of Finance. They want action. No longer can we afford statements.

Mr. Reid (Kenora-Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. If the hon. member for Kamloops-Shuswap (Mr. Riis) has time left, would he permit a question?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Would the hon. member for Kamloops-Shuswap (Mr. Riis) accept a question?

Mr. Riis: Yes, indeed, Mr. Speaker. I think perhaps I have a moment or two left.

Mr. Reid (Kenora-Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, my question concerns the people the hon. member quoted as saying there is an economic crisis. I believe he referred to William Mackness and to Calvert Knudsen of McMillan Bloedel. Focusing on the president of MacMillan Bloedel, does the hon. member endorse the solutions the president of MacMillan Bloedel put forward, and does he have the same concern that company has about its becoming too weak to withstand the pressures of labour unions? Does he also want the federal government to impose wage and price controls so that corporations will be able to keep wages down?

Mr. Riis: Mr. Speaker, I would like to respond to that question. I was anticipating the question, but I was actually expecting it from someone on this side.

The point I made in my presentation this afternoon was that wages and wage settlements have fallen behind the rate of inflation for five consecutive years. In other words, they are not fueling inflation in this country. The purchasing power of Canadians has deteriorated for five consecutive years, and anyone who would suggest that the solution to our economic problems is to impose wage controls is either simple or naive or both. The point of quoting Calvert Knudsen was that he is a man who represents one of the most significant industries in the country. He is a knowledgeable individual in the woods industry. He predicted an economic collapse if the fiscal and monetary policies of this government are not changed. I think this person is worthy of being listened to.

Mr. Jesse P. Flis (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my appreciation for the opportunity to take part in today's debate on Bill C-111, to provide supplementary borrowing authority. As Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Transport I am privileged to comment on the bill as it affects transportation, and I am very pleased that the official critic for the New Democratic Party understands the importance of investment. I do not think there is any more important sector of the economy than transportation, and it is important that we invest in that sector for the future growth of Canada.

We heard from the official opposition about the importance of stimulating the economy to create jobs. I am taking part in this debate because I think vast investments in transportation would have a stimulative effect on the economy and would create jobs without fueling inflation as such investments in other sectors of the economy would.