

## THE ECONOMY

### REBUTTAL OF TELEVISION NEWS REPORT

**Mr. Leonard Hopkins (Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Right Hon. Prime Minister. Several comments about the economic recovery of the seven leading industrialized countries have been emerging from the Williamsburg Summit meeting. I understand there is an internal American report which indicates that Canada's economic recovery is second only to that of the United States. In light of this, would the Prime Minister comment on one television news report which indicated that, with the exception of Canada and France, the economies of the industrialized nations represented at Williamsburg appeared to be on the road to recovery? Would the Prime Minister also comment on the downward trend of inflation and the comparative financial stability of the seven most industrialized countries?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Madam Speaker, the Hon. Member asks me to comment. I could only say that, if indeed there was a report of that nature, it is very seriously misrepresenting the truth and the facts. As everyone at Williamsburg and, I would say, anywhere else, realizes, the recovery in the United States is taking hold and it is taking hold in Canada, but there are some countries in Europe where that is not as certain. I think it is fair to say that most of the participants would be rather envious of Canada's economic performance in the recent half-year.

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## CROWN CORPORATIONS

### CANADAIR—PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE STATEMENT

**Mr. Don Blenkarn (Mississauga South):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister responsible for social development who replies for Canadair and other companies of that nature. The Minister will know that in the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs on November 16 the Hon. Member for La Prairie received an answer from the chief executive officer of Canadair Limited with respect to the Lycoming matter. He said:

We are very happy with the Lycoming engine and the performance of the company on deliveries.

If that statement is the truth, why is the Government of Canada financing a law suit for over \$100 million against Avco Corporation of Greenwich, Connecticut?

[Translation]

**Hon. Pierre Bussières (Minister of National Revenue):** Madam Speaker, I find the question superfluous. First, I cannot answer for the person who made that statement before the Standing Committee; second, I have not seen any such statement, and third, after due consideration, Canadair authorities have decided to take legal proceedings against the

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manufacturer of these engines, and I imagine that if they made that decision, they had very good reasons to do so.

[English]

### PRESIDENT'S PENSION BENEFITS

**Mr. Don Blenkarn (Mississauga South):** Madam Speaker, I take it from the Minister's answer that Mr. Frederick Kearns, President and chief executive officer of Canadair Limited, lied to the parliamentary committee. May I point out to the Minister that he not only repeated that statement to myself but to the Hon. Member for York-Peel. He repeated that misinformation or lie three times. He did what St. Peter did. Would he tell us how Frederick Kearns is allowed to retire early and receive pension benefits of over \$100,000 per year, with that performance and that representation to the House of Commons?

[Translation]

**Hon. Pierre Bussières (Minister of National Revenue):** Madam Speaker, if the Hon. Member wants to make charges against certain people, he may do so, but he will then have to live with it. On the other hand, the Hon. Member is well aware that the Standing Committees of the House will have the opportunity next week to consider estimates, at which time Hon. Members will be able to summon certain witnesses to appear. The Hon. Member may then summon this particular individual to appear in order to question him and ask him to explain his statements.

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● (1500)

## PETITIONS

### TABLING OF REPORTS OF CLERK OF PETITIONS

**Madam Speaker:** I have the honour to inform the House that the petitions presented by Hon. Members on Tuesday, May 31, 1983, meet the requirements of the Standing Orders as to form.

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[English]

## BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

**Mr. Lewis:** Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of order having to do with House business. I would advise the Government House Leader that I have had an opportunity to consult with the Hon. Member for Waterloo (Mr. McLean). The Government House Leader may have inadvertently disclosed something that came up in the House Leaders' meeting; I do not suggest he did it deliberately. However, if the Government will introduce the Act to handle student loans, and extension of it, we will be able to compare it with the draft Act. Once that