

Supply

Also, the hon. member wants an investment fund that is funded by the feds, the provinces and municipalities. They have to get the money from the taxpayer. The taxpayer has no more. He says he wants more money spent on R and D. Great, but we have one of the best tax credit systems in the western industrialized world. We need to get the private sector investing in that.

As far as free trade, I think if the hon. member would step one foot inside the province of Alberta he would realize since January 1, 1989 our exports to the United States have gone up by 48 per cent. I stand for free trade and I support the NAFTA.

Mr. Nystrom: It is no surprise, Mr. Speaker, that the member for Calgary Southwest supports NAFTA and supports the free trade agreement.

Mrs. Sparrow: You bet, yes.

Mr. Nystrom: It is no surprise whatsoever, but she does not reflect the Canadian people. The Canadian people think the government sold this country out.

Mrs. Sparrow: That's not true, Lorne.

Mr. Nystrom: Absolutely true in terms of the free trade agreement. If we look at any polling in this country today, we will find that the majority of the Canadian people are against NAFTA. They feel it is a further sell-out of our country.

Mrs. Sparrow: That is not true, Lorne, and you know it.

Mr. Nystrom: This is a fair debate. In the election campaign we will have a debate about NAFTA and a debate about free trade and the Canadian people will make a decision.

Mrs. Sparrow: What is the matter with our exports?

Mr. Marchi: Most of them are jobs, you are exporting jobs.

Mr. Nystrom: Mr. Speaker, the Canadian people believe they have been sold out. She asked where we will get the money from. There are some \$70 billion sitting in family trusts in this country for the wealthiest of Canadian families, \$70 billion untaxed. It is going to be sitting there until the youngest child dies. If the government wants to get some extra money, how about taxing some of these family trusts?

If it wants some extra money, how about cancelling the \$5.8 billion for helicopters that is going to be spent over the next 14 years? These are a couple of priorities that the government could change if it wanted to get extra cash.

Finally, if the government had had an interest rate policy in the last five or six years where interest rates were more in line with the American interest rate, we would have billions of dollars of extra cash in the coffers of the federal government.

Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West): Mr. Speaker, I was very interested to hear the concerns and views of the member of Parliament from Saskatchewan. I think he was very effective in pointing out the deficiencies of the national economic strategy of the Conservative government.

He also touched a raw nerve. In essence he talked about the faltering Ontario economy. He talked about plants shutting down. He talked about the constant exporting of jobs from Ontario, which is the chief and major industrial belt in our country. When he says that he also has to know, as he surely does, that the Ontario government bears some kind of responsibility.

• (1145)

Not to exacerbate the debate that is going on in their caucus, and clearly that is going to be at the forefront of their special meeting with the emissaries from Premier Rae, I am just wondering if he could perhaps expand on his views in terms of whether the Ontario government is pursuing the type of factors that he wants the federal government to pursue in terms of stopping the economic bleeding in Ontario, and what kind of message he personally will bring to the two emissaries from Premier Rae when they meet tomorrow.

Mr. Nystrom: First, I am sure my friends in the Liberal Party of Ontario would agree with my answer, which is the reason there is a big problem in Ontario is that we have had a recession in this country. That is a major factor right there.

Second, there has been no province hit harder than Ontario with the consequence of the free trade agreement with the United States. Many plants have closed down or have moved south of the border. Ontario has been hit harder than any other province because the manufacturing base is in the province of Ontario.