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 that stage of the bill.

Mr. Kilgour: Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak on this matter on behalf of the Official Opposition.

Mr. Mifflin: Mr. Speaker, you said it ended at six o'clock. We have a couple of minutes left. On a subject of this importance I would have thought that we would have gone right to the wire, even if it ended at six o'clock. I see that with three minutes to go we are into other subjects.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Your colleague has just raised another point of order.

Mr. Samson: Mr. Speaker, I will have to be brief.

In view of the importance of this motion, it is imperative that we look at the reality.

• (1800)

The reality is there are a number of people, a number of families, in dire straits, in dire need. It is not time to talk about training programs, it is not time to talk about anything else. It is time to talk about the need. These people do not qualify for training programs. They do not qualify for unemployment insurance. What they are looking for is some emergency assistance.

The government has seen fit to find emergency funds in other areas of the country for other reasons. It found funds for the gulf war, a very important issue.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The time provided for the consideration of Private Members' Business has now expired. Pursuant to Standing Order 96(1), the order is dropped from the Order Paper.

Mr. Kilgour: Mr. Speaker, very briefly, the minister made the point that the parties could not agree on a Standing Order with respect to debate and therefore he is moving this motion under Standing Orders 78(1) and 78(2).

I am told that nobody on behalf of the government consulted with anybody in the Official Opposition, so it seems to stretch credulity to get up and say agreement

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could not be reached when the minister with a straight face never even bothered to speak to anybody on this.

Mr. Speaker: This is not a debatable motion.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT

[English]

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 38 is deemed to have been moved.

CANADA ASSISTANCE PLAN

Mr. David Kilgour (Edmonton Southeast): Mr. Speaker, after that performance it certainly makes all of us over here wonder what kind of people we are dealing with on the government side.

On April 8 I asked the Minister of Finance if he could possibly see his way through to ending the benign indifference with which he has treated the provinces, his fiscal partners in this country. There does not seem to be any such thing as a have province at the moment.

The current recession has affected every single province adversely. Ontario, which was long known as a prosperous economic engine of Canada, has been dealt extremely punishing blows by a combination of high real interest rates and an uncompetitive exchange rate in the Canada–U.S Free Trade Agreement.

In my own province of Alberta about 80,000 people in the oil and gas industry have lost their jobs since 1986, largely because of unprofitable conditions in the industry. About half of the industry work force is now out of the industry.

Those conditions have been exacerbated by Ottawa's obsession with monetary policy, a deflationary direction that has been continued by the current Minister of Finance with the result that 110,000 of our fellow citizens have lost their jobs in March and April alone this year.

The oil and gas industry is the engine of growth in our province, the province which is also the home of the finance minister. Currently there are 432 drilling rigs available in Alberta but only 132 of them are in use, leaving 300 idle. A firm's rigs utilization to break even should be at about 55 per cent and 65 per cent to secure a reasonable rate of return.