Supply

Mr. Speaker: Does the Hon. Parliamentary Secretary have the unanimous consent of the House to move his motion?

Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Parliamentary Secretary to the Government House Leader does have our consent to proceed with this motion. We would hope that in the future this would be the prescribed form for those particular Estimates; that is, that the estimates in respect of the Multiculturalism Directorate be automatically referred to the Standing Committee on Multiculturalism, rather than having a special order passed year after year.

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the terms of the motion. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

OUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

Mr. Doug Lewis (Parliamentary Secretary to Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I ask that all questions on the Order Paper be allowed to stand.

Mr. Speaker: Shall all questions stand?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

• (1120)

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

BUSINESS OF SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY, S. O. 82—ALBERTA ECONOMY

Mr. Ian Waddell (Vancouver—Kingsway) moved:

That this House expresses its disappointment with the Government for its failure to deal effectively with the severe economic recession in Alberta which has resulted in, among other things:

- (1) Alberta having the worst performance of any provincial economy in Canada which the Conference Board of Canada has estimated will shrink in over-all terms for the second consecutive year;
- (2) a loss of 50,000 direct and indirect jobs in the oil and gas industry;
- (3) leaving Alberta farmers with 23 per cent of Canada's outstanding farm
- (4) causing on average 600 new families per month to be placed on welfare; and
- (5) Alberta having the highest per capita suicide rate in Canada.

He said: Mr. Speaker, the resolution deals specifically with Alberta, but I suppose more generally the debate today is on western Canada. It will be focused upon Alberta and hopefully expanded to the economic plight and difficulty of people in western Canada.

The Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) has just returned from western Canada. While he was there, he was reported to have said that his Government had made some mistakes. I guess that makes it unanimous now; even the Prime Minister agrees, as does the whole country.

The resolution is based upon the report of the Conference Board of Canada, a non-partisan group with a good history. If anything, it is fairly small, conservative and business-oriented. Its report was published the other day. It is really a sad report for western Canada, but for Alberta in particular.

The Conference Board indicated that the Alberta economy will have the worst performing provincial economy in Canada and that growth will be down for the second consecutive year. Last year it was down .7 per cent; this year it will fall by 1.1 per cent. I will return to that issue in a minute and deal with some of the details of the performance of the Alberta economy.

However, I should like to indicate how we in the New Democratic Party feel. We think now, more than ever, that we must rise in the House to present motions and to ask questions on behalf of ordinary Albertans, because Alberta is not being very well represented by the silent 20. I used to call them the silent 21, but one of them spoke out.

At a time when a Member of the House, Mr. Bissonnette, is under investigation by the RCMP for allegedly profiting from a land deal in his riding; at a time when another Member, Mr. Stevens, the Member from York, has been at the centre of a major conflict-of-interest hearing; and at a time when another Member, Mr. Gravel, faces 50 charges of influence peddling and breach of trust, it is the Hon. Member for Edmonton—Strathcona, (Mr. Kilgour), who gets booted out of the Conservative caucus. Western Canadians, Albertans in particular, wonder about the standards which that caucus is observing. Perhaps we will hear about that today. No doubt we will hear from the chairperson of the Alberta caucus.

Mr. Malone: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a very valid point of order. I have been in the House for 13 years and I know that the Hon. Member for Vancouver—Kingsway (Mr. Waddell) has been in the House for a significant period of time. He knows clearly and factually that he is not to make a reference to Members of the House of Commons by their names. He has just gone through a list of three or four of them. He knows that is inappropriate; he is experienced enough to know better. I ask the Chair to ensure that he refrains from doing what he knows to be unparliamentary.

Mr. Speaker: I will hear the Hon. Member for Vancouver—Kingsway (Mr. Waddell) on the point raised by the Hon. Member for Crowfoot (Mr. Malone). I just want to assure him that this will not count as debating time.

Mr. Waddell: Mr. Speaker, I take it that the Hon. Member is right. I was trying to put it in terms which people who do not know the seats of Members could understand.

Let me rephrase it. One Member from Quebec, from the Saint-Jean area, is under RCMP investigation for a land deal.