

Alleged Failure to Reduce Unemployment

realization of a dream of the Minister of Transport and officials of his department.

Perhaps there have been some errors; yet our accomplishments far outweigh any errors that may have been committed in planning or designing. Hon. members of the opposition keep telling us that Canadian manufacturers need government help to design and improve their products. That is simply not true. Manufacturers merely want the government to create an atmosphere conducive to industrial development. Industry can take care of itself and will build up this country. Our industrialists will employ increasing amounts of labour. After all, the creation of jobs is a function of industry.

I should like to go on and say something about mining and exploration in Canada, but time does not permit. May I bring to your attention, sir, the accomplishments of our geological scientists who, under the auspices of the present government, are doing tremendous work. No doubt some hon. members are acquainted with the developments in mining taking place in Rouyn and in the Noranda area.

● (8:50 p.m.)

Let me bring to your attention very briefly, Mr. Speaker, the fact that this area has been prospected since 1927. So many drill holes have been spotted in that area in the quest for ore that it resembles Swiss cheese. Yet more recently, with modern geophysical tools—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard): Order. I regret to interrupt the hon. member but his time has expired.

Some hon. Members: Carry on.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard): Does the house give unanimous consent for the hon. member to continue?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Smerchanski: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. More recently an anomaly was investigated and our Canadian engineers discovered and developed what is known as the Delbridge ore body. One of the most interesting parts about this discovery program is that it was headed by an engineer, Julian Boldy of Ireland, who came to this country in 1966.

Mr. Paproski: Hurrah for the Irish!

Mr. Smerchanski: This engineer wanted to contribute to the development of Canada and [Mr. Smerchanski.]

discovered several million tons of copper ore approximately two miles northeast of the Noranda operation. This discovery will enhance the development of that area by some \$20 million. Much of the money will be used to purchase materials for the development of the mine. Work opportunities in the area will be provided and indirect benefits to industry will be created because additional machinery and mining equipment will be required to develop the project.

At present, mining activity in Canada is at its highest peak. Never in the history of Canada has mining experienced the type of development that is taking place today. A large part of this development is due to the foresight and planning of the government. I say that it is this imaginative, aggressive type of program that will create more jobs, more industry, and a larger source of tax dollars for the Canadian government.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Hales: Would the hon. member permit a question?

Mr. Smerchanski: Certainly.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard): The hon. member's time has expired, unless there is unanimous consent for this question. The hon. member for Hamilton West.

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, I believe that this motion the Opposition has put forward for debate deals primarily with, and is concerned about, the equality of life of people in this great land of ours, and also with the equality of our economic development. But, Mr. Speaker, we have to come back to the basics, and that is people. People are the greatest asset that we have and because of this all our attention, our energies and our resourcefulness should be primarily concerned with them. We must continually keep our ears receptive to the legitimate aspirations of people. If the Canadian people are concerned in any area, government should be concerned. If people demand action, government should give them action, and if people express the need for leadership the government should give them leadership. This is what participatory democracy is supposed to be about.

Just a short time ago I heard an hon. member state that the Opposition thinks the government has to solve all the problems. We don't want them to solve all the problems, just let them solve some of them.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.