

Supply

The only jobs that government ever creates are jobs that are created as a result of the expropriation of somebody else's wealth in the first place. We have to recognize that. When government does recognize that—

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Maheu): I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member. It is almost five o'clock.

[*Translation*]

It is my duty pursuant to Standing Order 38, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the hon. member for Hochelaga—Maisonneuve—Canada Labour Code; the hon. member for Mégantic—Compton—Stanstead—Federal Deficit.

[*English*]

Mr. Scott (Skeena): Madam Speaker, in concluding my remarks I was saying that there is an opportunity for government to show some leadership, to change policies and develop a vision for business and industry in Canada by being partners in the sense that we get out of the way and allow small business the opportunity to do what it can do very well if given the opportunity.

Mr. John Bryden (Hamilton—Wentworth): Madam Speaker, I really did appreciate the remarks of the hon. member for Skeena, particularly the matter of direct grants to business.

A lot of us would agree that often this does not work very effectively but I wish he would give credit to this budget where credit is due. I point out to him that the government has cancelled the \$608 million KAON accelerator project which is a classic example of the type of thing that he is talking about.

I would like him to comment on that and tell me whether he agrees that the government was wise to cancel KAON.

Mr. Scott (Skeena): Madam Speaker, I thank the hon. member for his intervention.

I would remind him that KAON was not a regional development initiative. It was a science initiative. Having said that, the member asked to give credit where credit is due in the budget.

We have subsequent to the new government being elected not only development incentives and grants taking place within Canada but it was only recently announced that the federal government was going to provide a \$100 million Canadian export credit to a new aluminum smelter in South Africa. That tells the whole story. The government has not yet accepted the fact that you cannot do it that way.

• (1700)

Mr. John Harvard (Winnipeg St. James): Madam Speaker, the hon. member for Skeena talked about small business in a way as though Liberals in the country had never heard of small business. I can assure the gentleman that thousands of Liberals

are business people and that thousands of businesses support the Liberal Party.

We know some of the problems faced by small business. If the gentleman from Skeena would have read the budget a little more closely, he would have noticed that small business plays a big part in the budget. We are attempting to do many things to make its life a little easier.

For example, we will be developing what we call a lending code for banks, because small businesses have been complaining vociferously for years about the way they are treated by banks. We will be establishing a venture capital fund. We are expanding information centres across the country because we know how important information is to small businesses that are not wealthy, as he pointed out, and do not have the resources to get information on their own hook.

We will be expanding the technology network because technology is important to small business. We will be expanding the parameters of the Export Development Corporation because exports are important to the country and important to small business. Small business can do a lot more in the way of exports. Right now only 8 per cent of our business community exports.

We have recognized some of the problems facing the small business community. It is recognized in the budget. I think the Reform Party does not do a service to this institution when it, it appears, deliberately ignores what was stated in the budget.

Mr. Scott (Skeena): Madam Speaker, I point out that we live in a democracy. Those business people who support Liberals are allowed to be wrong.

I touch on what the hon. member said about the expansion of the Export Development Corporation. This is exactly what I am talking about. The Export Development Corporation announced the \$100 million Canadian loan credit to build the new South African aluminium smelter. If this is what the hon. member is talking about, I rest my case.

Mr. Ronald J. Duhamel (St. Boniface): Madam Speaker, I want to ask a very brief question. In his initial remarks, if I heard them correctly, my colleague indicated that governments do not make jobs. I think I understand what he was getting at. Normally there are conditions under which businesses operate. If they do well their profits create jobs for Canadians or wherever they happen to be.

I would like my colleague's reaction to the following. While I accept that—and I am assuming I have interpreted his comments correctly—would he not agree that government involvement, for example in student employment as will be occurring this summer and as has occurred during the last few summers particularly during periods of study, is a noble and supportive enterprise on the part of government?