Supply

Nobody knows this. People think jobs are created by great big auto companies or great big hospitals or great big something else. In fact that is not where jobs are being created any more. I was in Windsor last Monday when there was a \$900 million announcement by Chrysler and not one new job was created. It is to maintain the work force of 4,200 on this van plant with that investment, but even Chrysler with a huge investment of \$900 million is not creating any new jobs. It is just holding its own.

Where are the new jobs being created? They are being created by small and medium sized enterprises. Canada is a much more entrepreneurial country in 1993 than it was in 1973. I remember the first week I was elected in 1984. There was a great line-up of people who wanted things from their MP: they wanted passports, they wanted to get a relative in or whatever. I had 13 businessmen lined up waiting for some grant or subsidy from the government. I was appalled. Even our entrepreneurs were not entrepreneurial in 1984. This country was becoming sick with its dependence on the state. Even entrepreneurs would not do something if the federal government did not give them a hand.

We still have regional programs for northern Ontario so there are still some small handouts, but generally we have downsized those programs and we are moving more smartly with this loan guarantee scheme through the Small Businesses Loans Act to make sure economic activity takes place.

There is something else about who these small business people are. Who are they anyway? I want to change the image of who they are. Fifty-two per cent of all new small businesses created since 1986 were created by females. I think 26 per cent in the last 10 years were created by new Canadians, first generation Canadians who started small businesses. The participation rate of women was very low in the sixties. Now it is 80 per cent and they are owning and operate businesses. It is a new phenomenon and new Canadians is a new phenomenon. The Vietnamese boat people all have jobs. They have small businesses. They are going gangbusters. It is the same with Koreans. It is the same with all sorts of new Canadians. This is a new reality that is giving power to our economy.

People say that this is fine, that we will have a whole lot of mini businesses but nobody can export or compete

internationally if we just have small businesses. That is wrong. Washington Week said that is wrong. I opened 19 different companies this fall in southern Ontario that were expanding. They all had 100 employees or less and they all had three things in common.

• (1630)

Mr. Nault: How many did you close, Tom?

Mr. Hockin: The member wants to hear that these things are happening. We do have net growth in the economy.

They had three things in common. First, they were exporting 80 per cent of what they were producing. Second, they had some new technology, a new piece of machinery that caught them up with everybody else or put them a little ahead. The third characteristic, which is kind of sad, was that they did not want anybody to know that they were doing well. They did not want any publicity.

I heard the other day that 80 per cent of all new jobs in Canada are never advertised. People do not want to advertise they are expanding. I asked to bring the television cameras and the media with me to cut the ribbon and I was told they just wanted me and no publicity. They say this because there is nothing in it for them to get a lot of publicity.

The point is good things are happening. It is hard to get that message out. It is small and medium sized enterprise that is growing and doing well.

There is something more to this motion than simply small business. It is the over-all climate that has been put in place for economic growth in Canada. I do not think the next election—I have some advice to give my opposition friends—will be about framework policies, trade agreements and tax reform. They were for the elections of 1984 and 1988. The next election is going to be community by community, town by town, main street by main street and about how job creation is being stimulated. That is really what the election is going to be about. We are not going to be talking about these great big issues any more.

Those frameworks are in place so it is going to be what will happen in the detailed way. In the detailed way community by community, street by street, company by company, it is our view in the federal government, the Conservative Party, we should not do it through excess subsidies. We should try to stimulate growth in more