

because I do not believe that there is a consensus to support that answer.

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### THE ECONOMY

#### REQUEST FOR PROGRAMS TO CREATE FULL-TIME JOBS

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Finance. During the two-year period which ended last Friday there was some increase in the number of part-time jobs in the Canadian economy. Will the Minister admit that, during the same two-year period, more than a half million full-time jobs were lost? In relation to that, on the assumption that most Canadian men and women, young and old who want to work, want a full-time job, will the Government, in the next couple of weeks, be bringing in new programs to get full-time jobs for those Canadians who want them?

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance):** Madam Speaker, as I indicated yesterday, Canada is at the present time creating jobs at a faster rate than any other industrialized country.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Lalonde:** This is in line with what we have done during the 1970s when, under this Government, Canada created more jobs at a faster rate than any other industrialized country.

If the Hon. Member is asking for a specific initiative, I am very happy to bring to his attention one that does not need to be introduced. It is one that is under consideration before the House at the present time, and it will mean \$25 billion worth of investment in this country over the next ten years and the creation of several hundred thousand jobs. It is now before the parliamentary committee. We are expecting that committee's report before the House any day, and I would hope that the New Democratic Party in particular, and the Official Opposition, will support the amendments to the Crow legislation which will ensure that this project proceeds and that we may create jobs all across the country and proceed with that very large investment.

**Mr. Broadbent:** Madam Speaker, once again the Minister did not answer the question that was asked. He knows that if a person works for one day in this country, it counts as a job because of the way the Government uses statistics. I repeat that before we had a Liberal Government, Canadians assumed that they would get a job and that it would be a full-time job. It is this Government that has changed that expectation for Canadians.

#### REQUEST FOR NEW POLICY

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Madam Speaker, I would ask the Minister that if the Government is seriously concerned about the rights of men and women to work, will he

### Oral Questions

be bringing in a new policy or program designed to give men and women the right to a full-time job?

[Translation]

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance):** Madam Speaker, as I just said to the Leader of the New Democratic Party, since last November, we have been creating jobs here in Canada at a faster rate than in any other industrialized country in the world. I shall go on repeating this until my hon. colleague and Opposition members finally realize that that is what we are doing in this country. This is indeed a remarkable record. It is true, and we agree, that the unemployment rate is high, and it is because the labour force in Canada also has the highest growth rate of any industrialized country, and we are doing everything in our power to create as many jobs as we can, as soon as we can. It is of course preferable to create permanent, full-time jobs that people can count on, and that is why, when I brought down my budget, I put special emphasis on the importance of creating jobs in the private sector rather than creating temporary jobs through direct job creation programs. However, we realize that the private sector will need time to create all those jobs. Meanwhile, I would again invite the Opposition to pass the Bill amending the Crowsnest Pass rate, and once that is done, the way will be clear for investing \$25 billion in this country in the years to come, thus creating the hundreds of thousands of permanent jobs the Hon. Member is referring to.

● (1430)

**Mr. Broadbent:** Madam Speaker, the answer is not any better in French than it was in English. It is still the same answer.

[English]

#### INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** I should like to ask the Minister if he is aware that at least his officials acknowledge that the Government's policies have been a failure. Last week the *Economic Review* produced by his officials, and presumably he speaks with them from time to time, acknowledged that it is the Liberal Government's policies of the past couple of years that have exacerbated the depression and have worsened the situation for men and women in this country.

Will the Minister think again about what he has said and recommit the Government—which promised an industrial strategy for the country—to such an idea that would restore in some measure the hopes of ordinary men and women, young and old, who want to be able to get a job and to achieve the dignity that goes with that right?

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of Finance):** Madam Speaker, the document to which the Hon. Leader of the New Democratic Party refers is one that I have signed and one that has been published under my responsibility, not that of my officials.