

*Adjournment Debate*

strike a delicate balance between their responsibilities at work and at home.

My only concern, Mr. Speaker, is that as legislators we must resist the temptation to change legislation piecemeal and to fall prey to sensationalism. On the contrary, we should favour a co-ordinated approach, which would take into consideration the whole of the employment standards as well as their enforcement provisions. We must be, Mr. Speaker, more of a good legislator than a popular one.

Several concerns of workers who must juggle their work and family responsibilities are dealt with in the federal employment standards. This is the case, for example, with bereavement leave, sick leave and, as my colleagues were saying, maternity leave and parental leave.

Striking a balance between family responsibilities and work obligations is something every Canadian must do, including politicians, and I must—

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** I regret to interrupt the hon. member.

[*English*]

The time provided for the consideration of Private Members' Business has now expired. Pursuant to Standing Order 96(1), the order is dropped from the Order Paper.

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## PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[*Translation*]

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 38 deemed to have been moved.

### UNEMPLOYMENT

**Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell):** Mr. Speaker, a while back, I asked the Conservative government a question about unemployment in Eastern Ontario.

[*English*]

I enumerated at the time, on November 8, 1990, the series of plant closures in my riding. That list included 1,100 jobs lost in Cornwall, 1,600 in Renfrew, 250 in Hawkesbury, 325 in Alexandria, and I even included at the time a lay-off of 100 people at the Consultex Textile plants in Alexandria.

Little did I know then that things would not get better. In fact they would get worse.

I asked for government help at the time to help the unemployed of my constituency. What did the government say?

**An hon. member:** No.

**Mr. Boudria:** It says: "No one likes plant closures," and the minister for science says: "If the hon. member is going to talk about plant closures then I think it is important to talk about those that have closed in recent months. If he strings off a list of plant closures over the last three or four years that is not fair in terms of this economic problem. We acknowledge that we have a problem and we are going to try to resolve it".

They have done nothing.

First of all that answer was most inadequate. Now we have the minister of state for small business who is with us this afternoon and I am particularly pleased that he is here because he knows of the unemployment in the riding that I represent and I hope that we can get some assistance from that minister because I know that he has taken this issue seriously.

In the last 24 hours another blow has hit the community of Hawkesbury. This one is not exactly the fault of the federal government, but I think it needs to be raised just about now. The Community Initiatives Fund of the Community Futures Committee in Hawkesbury, Ontario, in my riding had recommended in favour of a large federal government contribution toward *la Cité collégiale*, one of the new post-secondary colleges of the province of Ontario that was proposed to have been located in Hawkesbury. We now hear as of yesterday that the government of Ontario is planning to withdraw those funds and to put them elsewhere.

I hope that the minister who is here today will be able to convince Evelyn Gigantes, the provincial minister