

Small Businesses Loans Act

Mr. Hicks: Mr. Speaker, I discovered that the Hon. Member for Guelph (Mr. Winegard) and myself have a great deal in common. He and his father went into the garage business many years ago. My father and I did the same. I wish to make it clear to him, however, that his operation was extremely luxurious in comparison with ours. We could not afford the orange crates.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Hicks: The specifics of the Bill that are being debated probably will not alone create a great deal of jobs. The specifics of any proposal being put forth by this Government will probably not create, in themselves, a specific number of jobs.

Mr. Riis: Lower interest rates would.

Mr. Hicks: What I see happening is confidence, a great deal of confidence, being instilled across the country, because actions such as this are contagious. Does the Hon. Member agree with what I have just said?

Mr. Winegard: Mr. Speaker, I never disagree with the Hon. Member who has just spoken. I have to tell him that the orange crates were given to us. I think my younger brother had some kind of an in with the grocery store at the time.

As always, I am delighted to find that the Hon. Member and I are in complete agreement with what has to be done in this country.

Mr. McKenzie: Is there still time for a question, Mr. Speaker?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Yes, a short one.

Mr. McKenzie: The Hon. Member mentioned that years ago he was able to operate and survive because we had stability in the country, Mr. Speaker. I remember at that time that interest rates were 3 per cent and 4 per cent. We lost all stability in this country when we had the Liberal-NDP coalition from 1972 to 1974.

Mr. Riis: What a confidence builder! You keep whining and whining.

Mr. McKenzie: In complete co-operation with the New Democratic Party, the Liberal Government of that day inherited a \$673 million surplus and turned it into a \$4 billion deficit.

Mr. Riis: You never say anything positive.

Mr. McKenzie: And the NDP boasts that minority governments—

Ms. Copps: There he goes.

Mr. Riis: Do we have to have more?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Order, please. If the Hon. Member wants to ask a question, I will try to recognize

him, but now the Hon. Member for Winnipeg-Assiniboine has the floor.

Mr. McKenzie: I realize the truth hurts, Mr. Speaker, only too well.

Mr. Riis: There he goes again. Do you eat nails for breakfast?

Ms. Mitchell: No, I think it is garbage.

Mr. McKenzie: Would the Hon. Member for Guelph (Mr. Winegard) agree with me that this enormous debt which the Liberal-NDP coalition ran up in that period when our debt payments ran at something like 28.4 billion, which was an increase of 50 per cent in that period, was the start of the economic chaos in this country and the destruction of the free enterprise system? It was in that period with that coalition that the downfall of this country started. We had increases in inflation and increases in interest rates. Would the Hon. Member agree or disagree with me on that?

Mr. Riis: Are you bringing it up again?

Mr. McKenzie: I will bring it up every time, you phoney. We have had enough of that b.s.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The Hon. Member for Guelph for a very short reply.

Mr. Winegard: How could I disagree with such wisdom, Mr. Speaker?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The time for questions and comments has now been terminated. Is the Hon. Member for Hamilton East rising on debate?

Ms. Copps: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I understood the Hon. Member for Winnipeg-Assiniboine (Mr. McKenzie) to say he had had enough of that. We had been lectured yesterday—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Order, please.

Ms. Copps: We had been lectured yesterday by the House Leader on the government side—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Order, please.

Ms. Copps:—about civility. It seems to me—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Order, please. We are now on debate. Is the Hon. Member for Hamilton East rising to debate this Bill?

Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East): Yes, Mr. Speaker. It is oftentimes said that to the victor go the spoils. I am sure a number of the government Members have been gloating over that particular premise since September 4. I just want to respond very briefly to the comments made by the very able hockey player from the riding of Guelph by saying that