S. O. 21

The magazine shows that the vast majority of small businesses agree on one thing—Canada will benefit from free trade. They are not afraid to compete in the largest market in the world.

This issue of *Small Business* should be placed on the summer reading list of the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Turner).

I know that the Hon. Member from Canada's best example of free trade, Oshawa, will also be interested in what ordinary businessmen have to say.

TRADE

CANADA-UNITED STATES FREE TRADE AGREEMENT—EFFECT ON GRAPE GROWERS

Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, we have heard the Hon. Member for Lincoln (Mrs. Martin). We have heard the Hon. Member for Niagara Falls (Mr. Nicholson). I would like to throw them a challenge.

Will the Conservatives sink to a new low as they have done with the free trade deal? These Members in the Niagara Peninsula and in the Okanagan Valley are so afraid of competition from opposition in the election that they have actually written a clause into the grape deal which states that no Member of Parliament can actually take advantage of the deal.

What that is saying is that members of the agricultural community who have a legitimate battle to fight, who have grapes that they will have to bury over the next few weeks as they are ripening on the vines, with no market, do not have the right to run for Parliament because they will not be able to participate in the Government's pay-out on the free trade deal to the grape farmers.

That is a fact. The Government knows that it is a fact. The reason it has put it into place is because areas such as the Niagara Peninsula and the Okanagan Valley will reject the Conservatives totally.

I would like to give the grape farmers a chance to have their say. I would like to give the grape farmers a chance to run. Go to it!

THE FRANCHISE

PENITENTIARY INMATES—ONTARIO COURT DECISION

Mr. Jim Jepson (London East): Mr. Speaker, last week, like many other Canadians, I read in *The Toronto Star* that Mr. Justice Bowlby of the Ontario Supreme Court struck down as

unconstitutional Section 16 of the Ontario Elections Act which disqualified federal and provincial inmates, taking away their right to vote, and feels that these men and women should have the right to vote. Like many other Canadians, I am appalled by this thought. I believe, as many other Canadians do, that when prisoners enter prison they lose their right to vote and other rights as normal citizens.

I call upon the Minister of Justice (Mr. Hnatyshyn) to call upon his provincial counterparts to encourage the provincial Attorneys General to have the Crown appeal this decision.

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

POSITION OF PARTI QUÉBÉCOIS LEADER

Mr. Ernie Epp (Thunder Bay—Nipigon): Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the Parti Quebeçois is quoted in today's press as advocating tax discrimination against companies that obtain federal funds to provide services in English in Quebec.

He also expressed concern that non-profit groups which run shelters for battered women and day care centres, which are forced to operate on very limited budgets, might be tempted to hire bilingual staff in order to increase their revenues. "That's frightening", he says, "to subject people to such temptations."

We understand and appreciate the desire to establish French as the language of public life in Quebec. But hundreds of thousands of Anglophone Quebecers would appreciate services in their own language. And, if they become the only bilingual people in Quebec, surely it would not be unfair for the federal Government to assist in their employment and the resulting service in both French and English.

Canadian history reveals so many instances of the refusal of English-speaking majorities to respect the rights of linguistic minorities, especially the French-speaking communities outside Quebec. I look forward to the day when the people of Quebec, secure in the vigour of their French, will be ready to accept the use of English in their province as well.

• (1415)

[Translation]

TRADE

CANADA-UNITED STATES FREE TRADE AGREEMENT—POSITION OF SENATE

Mr. Gabriel Fontaine (Lévis): Mr. Speaker, the unelected Senate wants an election on free trade. In 1949, did the unelected Senate demand elections on Canada's entry into NATO? In 1959, did the unelected Senate demand elections on the NORAD agreement? In 1982, did the Senate demand