

*Government Orders***CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION**

**Mr. Monte Solberg (Medicine Hat, Ref.):** Mr. Speaker, many people are employed making commercials and videos and that kind of thing for businesses and advertising agencies.

Unbelievably the CBC has recently announced it will be going into direct competition with these private sector audio and video production houses, specifically in Toronto. It is actively today trying to steal their clients. Clearly this is a violation of the CBC mandate.

Why is the minister allowing the CBC to kill jobs in downtown Toronto? Why are Toronto MPs not standing up in outrage about this? Why in the world are we allowing the CBC to kill these businesses which pay the taxes that actually fund the CBC?

**Ms. Albina Guarnieri (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Canadian Heritage, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member does not have to convince the House the Reform Party does not support public broadcasting. The hon. member can lip-sync my answer by now that the CBC is in charge of its own management and makes its own decisions to the best of its ability.

The hon. member should well know that on the committee we have been looking for ways the CBC can look for new efficiencies. That is exactly what it is doing.

\* \* \*

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT**

**Mr. Len Taylor (The Battlefords—Meadow Lake, NDP):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Industry.

Since the release last June of the environment committee's proposal to overhaul and update the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, some industry officials have said the committee proposals are a threat to the country's investment climate, costly to implement and grounded on shaky science.

• (1500)

It is important these myths be dealt with.

Will the minister join with his colleague, the Minister of the Environment, who is expected to respond positively to the committee's impressive set of recommendations and take the opportunity to turn Canada into an international leader in green legislation or is he going to accept the arguments of some of the officials in his department and back away from the committee's critical recommendations on pollution prevention?

**Hon. John Manley (Minister of Industry, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, I can really do no better than to associate myself with the remarks of my colleague, the Minister of Natural Resources. In responding to an earlier question she made it clear that we in government believe that both sustainable development and economic growth are important parts of our mandate as government.

As we prepare the government's response to the standing committee's report, we will ensure the concerns of the sustainability of development are front and centre.

I remind the hon. member that when the Department of Industry Act was introduced in the House it contained a mandate to pursue the objectives of sustainable development. That was a mandate I sought to add to the old industry, science and technology department act. I am proud to say that I was able to introduce it in the Department of Industry Act.

\* \* \*

**PRESENCE IN GALLERY**

**The Speaker:** Colleagues, as you are all aware, today is the 50th anniversary of the United Nations. We have in our galleries today some 17 Canadian recipients of the United Nations Association of Canada Medals of Honour recognizing their outstanding contributions to the UN.

**Some hon. members:** Hear, hear.

**GOVERNMENT ORDERS***[English]***SMALL BUSINESS LOANS ACT**

**Hon. Herb Gray (for the Minister of Industry, Lib.)** moved that Bill C-99, an act to amend the Small Business Loans Act, be read the second time and referred to a committee.

**Mr. Dennis J. Mills (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Lib.):** Mr. Speaker, even before the red book came into being during the last election, the Liberal team in opposition made a commitment that if we were to be given the trust of the people after that election, the small and medium size business community would be the centrepiece of any policy development that would be part of our agenda.

• (1505)

We believed in opposition and we believe now that the greatest hope Canadians have for putting other Canadians back to work rests with the small business community. It is the small businessmen and women who, in many cases with very few resources, created, through their own ingenuity, creativity and sweat and toil, products and services that grew not only into businesses but became a very important and vital ingredient in the economy of this country.

When we were elected about two years ago we started immediately to deal with the number one difficulty that small businessmen and women had in trying to meet their objectives which was getting access to capital.