

that period. You eliminate the drug prices review board which was supposed to prevent any unrestrained increases.

● (1200)

**Senator Thériault:** You don't understand what this is all about.

**Senator Flynn:** Not unless I can't read. I am sure I do understand a couple of things. Is it true that you are giving a protection period of four years?

**Senator Thériault:** We recommend the Eastman report which was recommended by all witnesses.

**Senator Flynn:** I am not talking about the Eastman report but about a four-year protection period. And what about Eastman?

**Senator Thériault:** I suppose you know who he is?

**Senator Flynn:** Of course I do. And I know his report. I don't care what Dr. Eastman recommends. Are you recommending a four-year protection period, yes or no?

**Senator Thériault:** Yes.

**Senator Flynn:** Is there a mechanism to monitor the drug prices review board?

**Senator Thériault:** We don't need one.

**Senator Flynn:** You don't need one. So during those four years, they will be able to change whatever they want to change?

**Senator Thériault:** The same as they are doing now.

**Senator Flynn:** It is worse, because right now we have nothing. You are recommending a four-year period. I don't know who doesn't understand what, but unless I can't read . . . I beg your pardon, the trombone from St. Boniface!

**Senator Guay:** First of all, if your government had appointed you to the committee you would have learned something. Second, you are getting away from your subject if you criticize other senators.

**Senator Flynn:** In any case, my party did not appoint me to the special committee, but it should have done, as you say, because I would have learned something. In your case, they did not appoint you to the committee because you would not have learned anything!

**Senator Guay:** On the contrary.

**Senator Flynn:** As a result, you have a situation which is worse than the present one and worse than the one which would have been created by the bill. I am certain that Senator Guay will rise in a few minutes and explain everything when he gives us his views, as he already knows everything and had no need to sit on the committee.

**Senator Guay:** It would serve no purpose to reply.

[Senator Flynn.]

**Senator Flynn:** I am trying to make you understand.

**Senator Guay:** You have problems understanding this yourself.

**Senator Flynn:** I do not know why you are getting angry! I am trying to reply to Senator Thériault.

**Senator Guay:** I find it amusing.

**Senator Flynn:** If you find it amusing, you can laugh, but you should not grumble!

**Senator Guay:** You are funny!

**Senator Flynn:** I find it a bit funny myself, but also a bit sad. This situation is created by these completely improvised amendments, because this is not what you intended. You were thinking about Dr. Eastman, as Senator Thériault has said. However, you have to look at the Eastman report as a whole. These amendments go beyond the bill. They are illegal and go beyond the authority of the Senate. You have come up with a bastardized and impractical system.

Under the circumstances, I do not see how the House of Commons, even the opposition parties there, can accept the amendments which you want to suggest to them. Without the prices review board, the payments to the provinces and the four years of protection and with no control whatsoever, I do not see how these amendments could be accepted in replacement of Bill C-22 as it was referred to us by the House of Commons.

Because of this, to allow all members of the Senate to express their views clearly, I move, seconded by Senator Roblin, that Bill C-22 be not now read the third time, but that it be amended by deleting all the amendments proposed in the first part of the seventh report of the special committee on the said bill, and by restoring the text of the bill as received by the Senate from the House of Commons.

**The Hon. the Speaker pro tempore:** Senator Flynn moved, supported by the Honourable Senator Roblin, that Bill C-22 be not now read the third time, but that it be amended by deleting all the amendments proposed in the first part of the seventh report of the special committee on the said bill, and by restoring the text of the bill as received by the Senate from the House of Commons.

● (1210)

[English]

Is it your pleasure, honourable senators, to adopt the motion in amendment?

**Hon. Lowell Murray (Leader of the Government and Minister of State for Federal-Provincial Relations):** Honourable senators, as this may be the only opportunity I shall have before this matter is—

**Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Leader of the Opposition):** Honourable senators, I rise on a point of order on the motion. As I heard it read, I think the motion is defective. It is defective in form, because the motion reads "that Bill C-22 be not now read a third time." Bill C-22 is not before us—it is Bill C-22, as amended, that is before us.