

*Patent Act*

are on the market with nothing more than natural competition and nothing more than the ability of the provinces to buy those drugs to maintain their lower prices. So who would say that any of the new drugs that are coming in the future would in fact be copied and would in fact have the generic price competition?

Is it not great to think that now we have a reason for generic companies in Canada to manufacture fine chemicals here? It is not necessary for those companies to go to Hong Kong, Taiwan or Italy to buy the chemicals. They have a reason now to jump in and set up a chemical manufacturing industry in Canada. Think of the research and technical jobs that will result. Think of the regular jobs that will occur from this type of fine chemical production.

Our friends opposite say there will not be more research workers. They say there will be a net loss of jobs. A professor from the Department of Pharmacology at the University of Toronto has said that many of his trainees, many of the people whom he has put through the PhD program, are now working in the United States in major drug companies and the products are coming back to Canada. What a shame that they cannot work here in this environment. The Hon. Member for Papi-neau (Mr. Ouellet), who spoke earlier this afternoon, said that drug companies tend to locate in countries such as Ireland, and he named another country. He said that drug companies do not want to come to Canada because the market is so small. Instead of debating Bill C-22 I thought the Hon. Member was talking about the trade talks. He was demonstrating the need for Canadian business and manufacturers to have a much bigger market that they can penetrate, a market that will make them efficient so that they can go out and make a long run at a lower price.

There has been talk about the effect on seniors. We know that they are protected, mostly under drug plans. However, they are not totally protected by the drug plans. No one commented on the fact that drug plans protect only drugs selected for them. There are many drugs out there right now that are not covered under drug plans and which do not have any purchasing power. Under our plan, with the price control scheme being put in place, it will apply not only to the new drugs, not only to those 93 per cent that are purchased by the drug plans and are not copied, but to those other drugs that are not on the selected list.

When Members opposite talk about the cost of drugs in the future they do not build in the fact that 40 new generic drugs will come on the market in the next five years. That will reduce the plan. They do not build in the fact that the cost of hospitalization and medical costs of other kinds will be reduced. So the number of dollars we are talking about ten years from now appear to be based simply on false calculations.

I am pleased to give to this Bill my strong personal support from my background in my business. I am very pleased that the Government is moving to protect intellectual property. I

am especially pleased that the Government is moving to protect the health of Canadians in the future.

**Mr. Nelson A. Riis (Kamloops—Shuswap):** Mr. Speaker, I listened with interest to a number of my colleagues throughout the day. A question which comes to my mind is the following. If the Government is so certain that this legislation will result in all of these jobs and all of this research being done in Canada, then why is it so hesitant to build in some type of guarantee or even to obtain some type of guarantee from the various companies involved? We notice that it is accepting on blind faith that the international drug companies are saying: "Yes, we are prepared to invest heavily in Canada".

I ask any serious-minded person to give this proposition some thought. Let us consider a large multinational drug company, say with its head office in New York, which now plans to open a branch in Canada. If it plans to conduct serious long-term pure scientific research into new drugs would it do it in its small branch plant in Canada or at its parent head office in New York? What if we were to ask ourselves that question seriously, do we honestly think people would believe that major research and development will take place in branch plants? There are many examples across Canada of our branch plant economy. When we consider where the research is being done along with the development right through to production, we see that it is seldom done in branch plants. That is not the purpose of the branch plant. The branch plant is simply in place to provide a distribution and sales outlet for the multinational network.

**An Hon. Member:** Is that your vision of Canada?

**Mr. Riis:** The Hon. Member opposite asks me if that is my vision of Canada. No. It is obviously his vision of Canada, since that is the reality of Canada. It is his type of Government, both provincially and federally, which has allowed this to take place. We have more foreign ownership and control than any country in the world.

If anyone thinks that having important financial, research and economic decisions made in foreign countries is good for Canada, then that is where we part company I am afraid. That is not my image of what Canada should be. That is not my image of an independent sovereign nation. The best example we have seen in this regard in the last few days is with regard to the Bank of British Columbia which was bought out by the Hongkong Bank. Again, critical decisions about western Canadian enterprise will not be made in Vancouver, or not even in Toronto where they are usually made, but they will be made in the Far East. Quite frankly, I do not think that this is good for Canada. I do not think it is good for British Columbia, good for Canadians or for British Columbians. But that is getting somewhat off the topic.

There has been a great deal of contradictory evidence presented here in the last little while. Rather than simply reflect the views of the Hon. Member for Kamloops—Shuswap I will simply use other sources. Again, they will not be my