

plattitudes in his marvellous television extravaganzas, whether they take place in Ottawa, Regina or Quebec City. He is also trying to hold one in London during the next few days, unfortunately the Queen and the British Government are objecting to it. However, if the conferences and the television extravaganzas which are orchestrated do not have any practical value and do not deal with the practical problems which exist between our nations, then of what value are they? We can watch television shows from Las Vegas, Hollywood and so on, but what we need is a Prime Minister who, when he sits down with the President of the United States, can solve the practical problems of Canadian workers, farmers and investors.

That is what concerns us with this Bill. The Prime Minister can have as many song and dance routines as he wants and talk about wonderful relationships, but if they do not address the problems at a practical level and have an impact on the U.S. Congress or the U.S. Trade Commission in the way in which they deal with day-to-day trade relations, then they do not have much value for Canadians generally. And it is not just the fact that this is happening in one commodity. If we look at a whole raft of commodities and at international relations, we see very serious problems. It is not just the countervailing duty which the United States has imposed on our pork, which is having a devastating impact not only on pork sold to the United States but an equally depressing effect on our beef production. I think that Canadians are a little concerned when they see the three teams of inspectors rifling through the books of federal stabilization programs in the various provinces and deciding whether or not subsidization of the pork industry has been taking place in our country. That will be followed up by further investigations.

● (1125)

Regardless of how the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) portrays the relationship between our two countries, many serious problems exist, and certainly things have deteriorated for many of our producers. It is the same with respect to lumber. Hearings have been started as a result of a Bill brought forward by the United States Congress to reduce our exports of lumber to the United States by some 25 per cent. That will have a devastating impact on Canadian sales to the United States if it is adopted.

So I would support the amendment put forward by the Hon. Member for Winnipeg-Fort Garry (Mr. Axworthy). It proposes to strengthen the Canadian position with regard to foreign investment in our country, as well as to encourage beneficial investment in Canada by Canadians.

**Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan-Malahat-The Islands):** Mr. Speaker, I am very glad to be able to speak in support of Motion No. 2, moved by the Hon. Member for Essex-Windsor (Mr. Langdon), in which he asks that this House should amend the purpose of the Bill by referring to technology under the appropriate terms and conditions established by the Government. One of the important discoveries of the jobs action task force, which was co-chaired, incidentally, by the Hon.

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Member for Essex-Windsor, are rediscoveries or reaffirmations of something most of us have known all along. But perhaps some Hon. Members opposite need to be reminded.

One of the important points which was emphasized time after time in the travels of the job action task force is that the Canadian people want to have control over their own lives, their own economies and their communities. One of the basic tasks of Government is to help people have control over their own lives and their own economies. It is not good enough for the Government simply to abdicate that responsibility saying that major decisions are going to be made in the market-place, implying that somehow the market-place is free and neutral and that the decisions which are made there will somehow be ultimately beneficial for everyone concerned. The reality in today's world, Mr. Speaker, is that there is no free, independent or neutral market-place. The market-place is controlled and dominated by a few large corporations. More and more we see that these few large corporations are headquartered in places other than Canada. So it is very important that we hear what the Canadian people are saying about wanting to have control over their own economy. Government should take action to try to make that possible rather than simply abdicate.

● (1130)

One of the things we want to see incorporated in the purpose of this Bill is that technology should be subject to the appropriate terms and conditions established by Government. That is a basic purpose of Government. I want to say a word or two about technology and how important it is. Technology is not neutral; it has a profound effect on the way we live our lives. Let us just think for a moment about why people used to grow beards, for example. It was because shaving was a very painful process. In some early societies it was customary for beards to be plucked hair by hair. Then they invented the straight razor and people generally went to a barber to be shaved. Very few people were actually clean-shaven until World War I when Gillette invented the safety razor. Then, all of a sudden, it became the fashion for everyone to be clean-shaven. Some people are rather slow in catching up with a fashion, and other people believe it is important to be in the forefront of fashion at all times. But the important thing is—and this is a very superficial example—that a very small change in technology such as going from the straight razor to the safety razor can have some fairly major consequences. Technology, then, is never neutral and the control of technology in many cases is equivalent to the control of society.

When European colonists first came to North America, technology in Europe was just beginning to explode in a great many ways. At that time there was a kind of rough equivalence between some of the technology used by the indigenous people here and that which the Europeans brought over. Some of this indigenous technology was essential to the survival of the European colonists. However, gradually, the explosion of technology taking place in Europe at that time completely swamped the native technology. The European colonists made a point of keeping control of that technology and, in certain places in northern Canada today, the Indian people will show