

While the Liberals have been having a heck of a time making up their minds what to do, the New Democrats got in touch and worked with the senior citizens of the country and produced petition after petition against Bill C-22 which we tabled in the House while the Liberals still play around trying to figure out what to do. Consistency and honesty from the Liberal Party, well, that would represent a severe change in character, one that would come to us all in an unexpected fashion.

The New Democrats have been clear about where they stand. They are opposed to Bill C-22. What is before us now are the amendments from the Senate. The amendments from the Senate are very simple. One says that written into the legislation should be something which I am sure the Government will regard as very, very offensive, something that will certainly be in contradiction to promises made to the pharmaceutical industry that the Government serves, that is, that there should be—absolutely should be—research done by the pharmaceutical manufacturers if they are to retain their patents.

In other words, the Senate would implement the promises of the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. We know he does not regard that as desirable because there was never any intention on the part of the Government to ensure that that research would be done. That is their dishonesty, that is their hypocrisy. They said they would ensure that prices would not rise beyond the rate of the Consumer Price Index. One of the other amendments suggested by the Senate is that that should be in the legislation, too. We could not have that in the Bill. That would mean that the Government would, by legislation, keep a promise.

We know that that would be honest and that it would eliminate hypocrisy to live up to a promise. This Government, by practice, by habit, does not live up to its promises. That is the record of the Government which has put it at 24 per cent in popularity. That is the record of the Government that will have it condemned by the electorate. It will justifiably be condemned because legislation such as Bill C-22 is not in the interests of the Canadian people. It is in the interests of its controllers down in Washington.

I issue a challenge to this Government. It is very simple. Accept the amendments that would require it to fulfil its promises and we will go along with it.

● (1730)

Let us do this instead of the silly nonsense of that unleashed pit terrier running around condemning the Senate for doing what the people want. Let us all join together and do what the people want and take care of the Senate under other circumstances.

**Mr. McDermid:** Mr. Speaker, I find it rather interesting that we have a new position now from the New Democratic Party. It has just been announced. I am sure the Liberals will be interested in this—that if they accept the amendments they

will support the Bill. They will support the Bill. That is what he said. It is a new policy. His critic is paling down here in the front.

**Mr. Orlikow:** Not at all.

**Mr. McDermid:** I am not sure that he will make it through the sitting tonight. However, they said that they are going to support it, if they accept the amendments. It is another new position from the New Democratic Party.

I want to ask the Hon. Member a question. He was bragging about Italy, that great socialist country. He was mentioning it earlier. The last country in the western world to have a law like the one we have in Canada which we are trying to change was Italy. Does he know when Italy removed it? It was when it joined the European Common Market, because as part of the membership it had to provide patent protection for those people who made discoveries. Does he know who brought in that law in Italy?

**Mr. Rodriguez:** Who?

**Mr. McDermid:** Mussolini. Mussolini brought that law in. It was the only other country in the world that had it.

I ask him, if he is bragging about all these socialist Governments over there, why do they not have a Bill which throws the thing wide open and does not offer patent protection for those people who invest millions, millions, and millions of dollars and do not get a decent return on their investment?

Why do those great socialist Governments about which he is talking not have the type of legislation that we have here in Canada and that we are trying to change so that it is the same in all countries of the modern world?

It is not just the United States. The NDP keeps trying to say that this is a deal from the United States. What poppycock! Italy, Germany, Switzerland, and Britain are all countries that have said: "Look, bring your law into line with the laws around the world on patent protection", and that is what we are doing.

He is bragging about socialist Governments over there; why do they not have a law like that?

**Mr. McCurdy:** Mr. Speaker, it is a solid record that they are establishing. I said earlier that the Government was characterized by dishonesty and hypocrisy. I also suggested before that it may be even, indeed in some instances, characterized by a lack of keenness in hearing if not in intelligence.

I will repeat what I actually said. I said that we will support these amendments, and the consequence of our supporting—

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. McCurdy:** Oh, yes—

**Mr. McDermid:** We will check the "blues" on that one.