

of the individual. No information that can in any way be considered detrimental to an individual should be communicated to a third party without the prior knowledge of the individual concerned. Information, even though itself accurate, can, because it is incomplete, be at the very least misleading. Everyone must have the automatic right to correct or explain credit and character records.

Canadian control of the computer communications field should receive all party support. Similarly no member is likely to argue against the requirement that boards of directors of foreign controlled companies should be 51 per cent Canadian. Not one multinational or foreign controlled company executive to whom I have spoken has argued against such a regulation.

However, these gentlemen have unanimously rejected, as have executives from wholly Canadian companies, the provision that employees be excluded from the listing of the 51 per cent Canadian content of a board. This is a distinctly anti-Canadian provision that will accelerate the brain drain to the United States whilst serving no useful purpose whatsoever in this country.

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I am pleased to see included in the throne speech the provision that additional measures will be proposed to aid small business. Also to be underlined is that steps will be taken to obtain greater returns from industrial research and development as well as technological innovation in Canada.

In the pharmaceutical industry, for example, we must face the issue of whether, in our desire to press for the lowest cost drug of an acceptable quality, we are prepared to write off the Canadian industry. If many provinces follow the example of Manitoba we could become an importer of the major part of our drug requirements.

In the field of agricultural research we must redirect our thinking and give greater concentration to research that will aid and encourage our youth at the university level. These young people will be the backbone of our future agricultural development.

It is imperative that there be greater encouragement to our inventors and scientists, and patent legislation must reflect our wish to see ample reward for new ideas.

In noting that legislation will be introduced to create a federal commission on human rights and interests, I want to refer to an earlier remark I made concerning employment of middle aged persons. We must include in any such legislation provisions that will prevent discrimination on the basis of age. Thus no employee should be excluded from a position because of a restrictive pension plan. It is completely contrary to our concept of fairness that a competent prospective employee should be barred, because he is over 50 and the company has a compulsory pension plan, which he would be unable to join.

Furthermore, the government should consider methods by which pensions can be made portable from plan to plan in order, also to protect the older members of the work force. In this respect it is, in my opinion, highly immoral that an employee should lose moneys contributed by a company on his behalf to a pension plan if that employee

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resigns or is fired before he has a vested interest in the plan.

It is equally unjust that a prospective employee who has passed all other qualifying tests should be refused employment because a doctor's examination shows that he does not meet the requirements of the company's medical plan. I am ready to accept that special positions require a certain level of fitness—air line pilots, for example. However, to exclude a capable person from a sedentary position in a financial institution because of a minor physical defect is grossly unfair. Such discrimination must be prevented by legislation.

It is commendable that the provision of adequate shelter at reasonable prices is mentioned in the Speech from the Throne. In this connection there are two points I want to make. At the present time our domestic building material manufacturers are protesting their export markets even though there is a critical shortage of certain building materials in Canada. The supply houses are repurchasing these same materials in the United States and bringing them back to the domestic market. This practice is not only wasteful but is obviously inflating prices at a time when price increases are a cause for serious concern.

I also want to suggest that the human rights legislation referred to earlier should include provisions to free the individual from the restrictive practices of unions in the field of apprenticeship training. Union control of the number of trainees has created labour shortages in several trades in the construction industry that are adding unnecessarily to the cost of housing. Union legislation may be under provincial jurisdiction, but human rights are a federal responsibility.

I should like to make brief reference at this time to the conduct of business both in this House and in the various committees. One of the unfortunate aspects of our media coverage is the emphasis on the question period. The press gallery is then full. For the debates that follow there remains only the "on duty" press representative who may not be greatly interested and, in all honesty, is not likely to find too much to interest him. Similarly in committee, press coverage is spotty at best. This tends to give the country a somewhat unrealistic view of the work of the members. Undoubtedly our own conduct is a contributing factor.

I am inclined to agree with the member for Bellechasse (Mr. Lambert) that the preoccupation of members should be less directed towards the next election and more towards the passage of legislation beneficial for the country. Incidentally, I mention the county of Bellechasse, even though it is represented by an opposition member, as it is the county of birth of my wife's mother.

However, returning to the subject of House business, I sincerely hope that changes to our rules will help to eliminate wasted time. There is certainly a monumental task facing us and maximum efficiency is required of all of us.

The official opposition were complaining, for example, of the lack of time to discuss the supplementary estimates. Yet a perusal of the record will indicate that tardiness and poor attendance by the opposition lost this committee 15 per cent of its available sitting time. On one occasion the