Investment Canada Act

or to anyone else. What matters is guaranteed employment protection in every region of the country and in every municipality. There are 1.5 million unemployed, Mr. Speaker, and without even trying to do anything else, the Government is throwing our doors open and saying: Come and invest in Canada, buy anything you want, do whatever you want, we do not really care. It is unthinkable that Members of Parliament should think like this and allow such a thing to happen, Mr. Speaker. I believe that it is very important for people to require the Minister and the Government to disclose the commitments made by investors about job security, research activities and regional development.

Another major point that this Bill should deal with is the possibility that in a given area, for instance Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean or Rimouski, which have terrible unemployment rates, or elsewhere in Quebec or Canada, a new company will be set up and then compete with a local business which is already struggling, and no one will do anything to prevent it. What will happen is that a multinational will set up a plant in that region and destroy a local or family business, and then that multinational will close down its plan and use it strictly as a warehouse to sell and export its own product.

Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member for Laval-des-Rapides (Mr. Garneau) and my other colleague who speaks on these matters are to be commended as well as the Members of the NDP for prodding the Government relentlessly. It was quite understandable that our "Camera Kid", our Prime Minister, went kowtowing to the President of the United States. However, Mr. Speaker, we have been elected by Canadian men and women and we are here to protect their interests. We, from Quebec, have been elected to protect the interests of Quebec men and women in each of our constituencies. We have not been elected to defend the multinationals, because if only multinationals could vote, there would not be many Members of Parliament. There are many more workers than business leaders in Canada, Mr. Speaker. In all your constituencies, there are many more workers than business leaders. Who elected you? They voted for you to protect their interests. We have 1.5 million unemployed in Canada, Mr. Speaker, and if the Government leaves Bill C-15 as is, there will be more arbitrary and stupid decisions like those this Government has been making since September 4, such as cut-backs in the RRAP program for residential rehabilitation without consulting mayors and municipalities. The Hon. Members are not even aware of it. In Rimouski, the mayors of the regional municipality of Rimouski are complaining about the 60 per cent cut-backs in the RRAP program, Mr. Speaker, and the local Member of Parliament is not even aware of it. The Minister did not even inform his colleague about the decisions he will be making on these matters, Mr. Speaker. The Domtar case is the best example; the map-making institute is another example of this government's unilateral decisions. Ironically, they used to claim: "We are going to do things differently! We are going to consult the people." But when the time comes to legislate and to enlighten the public, the Minister says that he prefers to keep everything to himself. The Parliamentary Secretary has every reason to hide behind the curtains. If I were she, I should be ashamed and would refuse to take my seat. Here she comes, Mr. Speaker. I feel it is important ... and I rely on the Parliamentary Secretary whom I have successfully provoked and awakened.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Order, please! The Hon. Parliamentary Secretary (Mrs. Tardif) rises on a point of order.

Mrs. Tardif (Charlesbourg): Mr. Speaker, I should like the Chair to consider the relevance of these remarks. So far, whenever opposition members from the NDP have risen, they have dealt at least with the amendments under consideration. On the other hand, when members of the Official Opposition have risen, only a few of them have dealt with these amendments. I should like, therefore, the Chair to look into the relevance of their remarks. Also, I should like the Chair to remind hon. members that they should not mention whether their colleagues are present in or absent from the House, something they have done on several occasions today.

[English]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The Hon. Member should realize that there are rules of relevancy. I am sure he is coming to the relevant point right at this time. He only has about a minute or so left.

[Translation]

Mr. Malépart: Mr. Speaker, I do not wish to argue with the Parliamentary Secretary, but I was referring to the amendment and the fact that the necessary information should be disclosed to the members of each area . . . I think that the Hon. Member was absentminded and did not quite grasp my comments, but I was sticking closely to the issue under consideration. I would ask the Parliamentary Secretary, who should play her role, to try and influence the minister in order to protect jobs in Canada. If she does not want to do so, she will pay the political price later. If the Tory members do not want to do their job and merely go on travelling, they will pay the political price later. The Opposition maintains that it is essential for the government to make amendments and accept the amendment suggested by the NDP to make public the information on the following three critical points: guaranteed jobs, regional development and research.

[English]

Ms. Pauline Jewett (New Westminster-Coquitlam): I was just sitting here in the House reading a speech made by the Hon. Walter Baker on freedom of information. I am sure the Hon. Parliamentary Secretary has read some of his many speeches on that subject. I was reading a speech from June 22, 1978, on freedom of information, and I agree with the Parliamentary Secretary. That is the subject of these amendments. I