

*Competition Tribunal Act*

any product or sector of a market, or are designed to make quick bucks in rapid turnover or in market speculation with shares. In most cases, mergers and takeovers do not create new jobs. In fact, in most cases they decrease jobs.

● (1630)

There have been countless instances where the instigators of mergers and takeovers arrange financing from the banks. Much of those funds come from the deposits of ordinary Canadians who have savings accounts, share accounts or term deposits in those banks. They use the money of Canadian citizens by arranging loans with financial institutions for their mergers or takeovers.

I could never understand why a large corporation in the transportation business would want to become involved in the oil and gas pipeline business or would want to become involved in mining. If one is involved in transportation, one is involved in transportation. Why not do a good job in what one has been set up to do?

I should like to refer to the drug business and to agriculture, both of which are and should remain in the public domain. To paraphrase Tommy Douglas once again—and it is something with which I profoundly agree—those who would profit from the misfortunes of others are basically immoral. The attempts by the Government to change our laws to provide monopoly powers for the manufacturers of brand name drugs in the name of allowing them to recover their research costs are not only despicable but unethical and unchristian. I am one of those persons who has to buy drugs. I can afford the ones I have to buy. Thank goodness for the Saskatchewan drug plan; I do not pay more than \$3.50 for any kind of drug. However, what about those who cannot afford them? We cannot allow private dominance and private control over the research, development, manufacture, distribution and sale of drugs. We cannot allow it to be in the hands of one, two or three national or international drug manufacturing firms. It is an area in which free enterprise has no business. It is one place where free enterprise should not either make or take a profit. It should be in the hands of university medical schools and research departments, in the hands of the Departments of Health of the provinces and of the federal Government and in the hands of hospitals. All development and research should be in their hands and in the public domain.

Let us look at the multinational corporations which control food chains not only in Canada but internationally. The matters of plant and food research and of plant and food production should be in the public domain as well.

What is being extolled by the Government and its supporters in terms of their version of the theory of free enterprise is nothing more than a licence to exploit Canadians and people in other countries including those in poor countries, because those companies will want a return or a profit from the misfortunes of others. I submit that the legislation must address the issue of free enterprise, not “me” enterprise. That fundamental principle must be in the legislation, including its preamble.

Unless and until we reach that point, anything in the legislation will prove to be meaningless in the months and years to come. I hope the Government is willing to return to the drawing-board with this Bill for another couple of months and bring it back to the House in a much better form than the legislation which is before us now.

**Mr. Ian Waddell (Vancouver—Kingsway):** Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak on Bill C-91 and on our motion to hoist the Bill for six months, which is a way of protesting it. I see the Hon. Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Miss Carney), who is from my town of Vancouver, sitting opposite. I also see the Hon. Member for Duvernay (Mr. Della Noce) who used to own a small gas station in Quebec and is very interested in the energy field. In my 10 minutes I will try to talk about how the competition Bill does not do anything for lack of competition in the Canadian energy industry.

At the outset I say to the Minister of Energy that she has the worst of both worlds. She has a situation where Canadian consumers are not benefiting substantially and properly—

**Miss Carney:** That is ridiculous.

**Mr. Waddell:** They are not benefiting from the dramatic fall in world oil prices.

**Miss Carney:** It is down 10 cents per litre.

**Mr. Waddell:** The Minister of Energy is heckling me. She can speak after me. She should talk to the average consumer in Vancouver Centre, in Toronto or in Montreal; *parlez aux consommateurs de la province de Québec*. Consumers are not stupid. They look across the border and see the price which Americans are paying. Why are the Americans paying so little compared with us, even if we leave the tax matter aside? The reason we do not have competition in the oil industry—

**Miss Carney:** Why don't you move there?

**Mr. Waddell:** The Minister asks: “Why don't you move there?”. It is because I am proud to be a Canadian. I want to see the Canadian system work.

**Mr. McDermid:** Tell us about their health plan.

**Miss Carney:** And their pension plan.

**Mr. Waddell:** If Hon. Members opposite will listen, I will tell them what is the matter with the Minister's policy. The Hon. Minister of Energy deregulated, through the Western Accord, the oil industry; she went to the world market and away from a regulated price under the National Energy Program. The problem is that there is no free market in oil. It is an oligopolistic situation; there is no real competition in the oil industry.

**Mr. McDermid:** Why did the price fall?

**Mr. Waddell:** That is why it is not falling completely; that is the answer.