

could review the multinational take-over of a firm worth considerably less than the \$5 million which is being proposed in the present Investment Canada Bill. I think most Members of Parliament would agree with me that in the past the creation of job opportunities has not come from multinationals or large employers such as the International Nickel Company or General Motors. These large companies have had a decrease in the number of people they employ. Most people now recognize that the major engine of growth for job opportunity and job creation in Canada today comes from thousands of small businesses which employ 20 people or less. By and large these firms have less than \$5 million of equity. Through their own research and development many of them create niches in the North American markets. They have products which can be marketed on a world-wide basis. They involve technology that has been created in Canada to create jobs for Canadians.

There is nothing in this Bill to prevent a multinational from purchasing a small Canadian firm and transferring the technology that has been created at that place of employment outside the boundaries of our country. The cost will be Canadian jobs. The job opportunities in this country have not been created only in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver. They come from the small backwater sections of Maritime Canada and the small communities in rural and northern Ontario. Why are the Members of Parliament who represent those areas of the country not standing up to speak on this Bill?

In the last 15 years in northern Ontario we have witnessed a net migration of our young people. Only through the efforts of the Members of Parliament who represent those areas to get the Government of the day to move on programs which defend their constituents' interest are we able to keep that emigration of our population to a minimum. I think their constituents should be asking where their voices are. They should be standing up to debate this Investment Canada Bill.

**Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North):** Mr. Speaker, I must express my amazement at the complete silence of Members of the Conservative Party. Many of the amendments which have been moved by Members of my Party and of the Official Opposition deserve careful consideration and support. I would like to put on the record one amendment proposed by my colleague the Member for Essex-Windsor (Mr. Langdon) which reads as follows:

—develop medium term and long term public and private industrial sector investment guidelines consistent with an industrial strategy that emphasizes full employment, growth, diversification, autonomy and export competitiveness of the Canadian economy;”

Clothing or textile plants which are the only industry in some smaller cities are disappearing every week. The unions representing clothing and textile workers have been calling on Governments of the day to take steps to ensure that the industries can survive and provide jobs. Yet the fact remains that in Canada, as in the United States, plants are closing up every week. Companies which have been in operation for 40 or 50 years are closing, very often due to bankruptcy. Workers who have worked for a company for 10, 20 or 30 years are

finding themselves unemployed. That is happening because no company in these fields in North America can compete with the product produced in many of the Third World countries where workers receive less wages per day than workers in Canada get per hour.

I am not suggesting that I am opposed to imports. I am not suggesting that it may not be advantageous to consumers to import clothing or textiles made in other countries. However, if the Government has concern for the people of this country, it should develop policies to provide alternate employment for people employed in the industries which are to be eliminated or are to face a steady decline in employment. There are between 10,000 and 15,000 people in Winnipeg who work in the textile and clothing industries. If the companies which employ those workers cannot compete and get orders, and therefore go out of business, it will be serious. Employment in Winnipeg is diversified. Hopefully those workers who are now in the industry will find jobs in other fields. I am concerned about the people who work in those two industries in Winnipeg. I am even more concerned about the workers who work in those two industries in those cities and towns in Quebec, not just in Montreal, where there is no alternative employment. I have not heard a single Conservative Member of Parliament from Quebec expressing the concerns, which I am sure there are, of their constituents about what will happen to them unless the Government adopts a policy to protect those jobs or at least will see, as the jobs disappear, that there are alternatives.

● (1650)

Let me turn to another problem that I see, namely the desire of the present Conservative Government to privatize Crown corporations. We have never had a social democratic government in Canada.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Orlikow:** Somebody says hear, hear. We social democrats believe in a substantial amount of publicly owned enterprises. We have never had a social democratic government in this country. All the Crown corporations which we have in Canada—I am talking about the ones that come under the jurisdiction of the federal Government, the federal Parliament, and nearly all of the Crown corporations established in the provinces—have been established by Liberal, Conservative, Social Credit, Union Nationale, or PQ Governments. Why were they established? They were established because the Government, federal or provincial, believed that there was something needed in a province or nationally which was not being done by the private sector and the Government had to step in. The people of Canada, the Government of Canada, now own two very large Crown corporations involved in the aeronautics, aerospace field. I am talking about Canadair and de Havilland. Why are they Crown corporations? They are Crown corporation because when they were originally privately owned there came a point when business was so bad that the private owners said: “We are not going to continue. We cannot continue. We are going to close”. The Government of Canada,