

*Investment Canada Act*

almost as multinational corporations and are taking over and establishing private institutions which are "care for profit" institutions. This is one thing in particular into which I would want the Government to look and over which I would like it to have some control. We are very proud of our health care and social services programs in Canada because they care for all the people. I do not think many of us see the American system as being a model for Canada.

I have a reference here to an example of this which has taken place in Ontario. Beverly Enterprises of Pasadena, California, was attempting to take over some 1,000 publicly subsidized nursing homes beds in Ontario. The Ontario Minister was apparently condoning and encouraging this action and was not looking at the whole question of quality of care or even at the financial issues. How can there be adequate care if the main motive is profit? Certainly we want well run institutions that are responsive to human needs, provide good care and are financially efficient. I do not really think competitive private enterprise in the field of health care institutions will be appropriate for Canada.

In the case to which I have just referred, apparently no representations were made by Ontario to the Foreign Investment Review Agency, the agency which approved the sale on November 30, 1984. We feel that there must be effective control by Governments over institutions in the nursing home industry which cares for people who are no longer self-sufficient and independent because of their age or infirmity. It is very easy for private companies to take over the care which is really the responsibility of the communities and families.

● (1630)

I mentioned the concern with respect to daycare. I hope that when the report from the daycare study group, which was established by the Liberal Government, and the report of the parliamentary task force on child care are completed we will look seriously at the question of the invasion of child care by profit-making companies, in particular those which are established in the United States.

I see that the Minister is in the House and I hope he will agree that it is very important for us to have adequate standards and staffing facilities, particularly for young children and older people. The first priority must be good care. Those institutions must be responsive to the community. The community should be involved in the planning of daycare centre services. As well, parents should be involved, hopefully, in a co-operative manner. The institutions should be accountable to the communities. I hope that this will be given special consideration. I do not believe that the proposals which are made in this legislation will be good in the health care field or in other fields of endeavour for Canada.

**Mr. John Nunziata (York South-Weston):** Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to take part in the debate this afternoon with respect to an amendment that was proposed by the Liberal Party.

As the official critic pointed out, we have serious concerns with respect to Bill C-15. In a previous debate I indicated that Bill C-15 was a sell-out and that the effect of the provisions of the Bill would be the sell-out of Canadian industries. It would be the sell-out of what FIRA has been able to do over the last number of years.

When the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion (Mr. Stevens) announced Bill C-15, he stated that the legislation would herald a new day for Canada. I beg to differ with the Minister. In my view, Bill C-15 marks a very sad day for Canadians. Bill C-15 dashes any hope of Canadians getting control over the economy. It dashes any hope of Canadians becoming masters in their own home. In effect, Bill C-15 is a betrayal of Canada's hope for economic independence and cultural identity.

The Minister stated, and his comments were echoed by the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney), that Canada was open for business. As my leader said, he never thought Canada was closed for business. Canada has always been open for business and, as my leader has pointed out, Canada is certainly not for sale. But Bill C-15 will sell out Canada.

Indeed, it is regressive legislation. It is a tremendous step backward. But it is no surprise to us on this side of the House that the Conservative Government has introduced this Bill. It is sad, because after years of slowly and methodically gaining control over the economy, the Conservative Government is prepared to sell Canada to foreign interests. I am advised that under this legislation 90 per cent of foreign takeovers will go ahead without review. That is the subject matter of this particular amendment.

With FIRA we had some control over the type of investment which would be allowed. There had to be a significant benefit to Canadians. All foreign investment is not good investment. As the official critic for the Liberal Party said in the House on April 23:

—foreign investment by itself is not an untrammelled virtue. It must be measured and judged by the impact it has on jobs, new technology and direct economic benefits.

He went on to say that a number of cases were brought forward to cite how in fact foreign investment could be used to reduce employment, to reduce technological development and to reduce economic performance in Canada.

The purpose of the Bill is outlined in Clause 2, which reads as follows:

Recognizing that increased capital and technology would benefit Canada, the purpose of this Act is to encourage investment in Canada by Canadians and non-Canadians that contributes to economic growth and employment opportunities—

What does that mean? What is the benefit to Canada? It is not defined. The Government is dreaming. How can we ensure that with this legislation there will indeed be a benefit to Canada?

An editorial appeared in *The Toronto Star* on December 9, 1984, which was entitled: "Steven's Short-Sighted Gamble". In a nutshell, that expresses my very serious concerns with