

Government Orders

What has happened is that we had to go and find them in the United States and tell them: "Come back. You have a chance with us, because all future legislation will protect this investment".

Sure, some people will give figures. I heard some figures just now. Millions and millions and millions. It is easy. If a company could invent a drug one day that could cure 20 or 30 per cent of the patients in hospital, I think that Canada and Quebec and everyone would really come out ahead. That is what we are looking for.

Unfortunately, I had to go to hospital last week. It is frightening. I had priority because I had chest pains. People wait four to five hours. Research is important. If it costs \$500 million to save \$2 billion, well, that is \$2 billion in taxpayers' money we can save.

Why we are doing this? If the hon. member will listen, I will tell him. We are doing this because we want more investment, more jobs, more research and better drugs. We want to reward innovators, we want to reward research, and we want to give our young people a chance. He keeps harping on the negative side. It is going to cost more. Of course, research costs money, but some day we will get a return on that investment.

Research is indeed like a long-term investment. Some of the investments I have made did not seem like much at first, but in the long run they grew and grew, and that is what research and investment are all about.

This morning, when I was listening to the hon. member, I felt he ought to be ashamed to let the Bloc Quebecois defend his party and defend the people who believe in Bill C-91 in Montreal.

His question was: "Why act now, why don't we wait?" This is typical of people who do not want to keep up with new developments. Let us put it off until tomorrow. I was in business for 25 years, and I could never afford to say "we'll wait". People who wait are losers. We cannot wait. We must stay ahead of the pack. We must stay 10 years ahead of everybody else. But no, let us wait.

Mr. Speaker, you are signalling that I only have two minutes left, so in concluding, I will quote, for the benefit of my colleagues, an old saying my Italian grandfather always used: "No money, no candy".

Today in *Le Devoir*, I noticed someone plagiarised my grandfather's maxim, and I will name her, Mrs. Judy Erola, a former Liberal and former member of cabinet. She is now a lobbyist, like many others of her ilk, whatever their political affiliation. Many have started a new career this way. Mrs. Erola was saying the same thing. I agree. I do not think this is blackmail: "No money, no candy", no investment, no jobs; no research, no jobs.

To the residents of Laval, the city I represent, Bill C-91 is important. I hope my colleagues will stop delaying its passage and avoid losing ground as they did during the consideration of Bill C-22. That particular bill was crucial to them, and this is a new Bill C-22, if you like. My colleague said that I often referred to Bill C-22, but I cannot help it, because that is the bill that brought \$500 million to my riding and activated investment there. I am not saying that Quebec or Laval are better, but Laval is my home. It is a young city, barely 25 years old, and we are anxious to attract this kind of investment. Special residences and parks were built for researchers in a special environment, because a city does well to attract researchers and R and D components.

I rise in the House today to speak to Bill C-91, as I promised the people I represent. This bill must be passed, and we will try to convince our friends opposite—even if they want to be stubborn and quote all kinds of figures—by quoting back to them what my grandfather said: "No money, no candy".

[*English*]

Mrs. Dobbie: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I think you will find there is unanimous consent in the House to extend through the mid-day interruption.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Hon. members have heard the terms of the motion. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. members: Agreed.