PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

SUBJECT MATTER OF OUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 45, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the Hon. Member for Egmont (Mr. Henderson)—Fisheries—Georges Bank boundary decision—Possible United States request for moratorium. (b) Request that Prime Minister negotiate management agreement; the Hon. Member for Cape Breton-East Richmond (Mr. Dingwall)—Employment—Provision of funds to create jobs. (b) Source of funding; the Hon. Member for Bow River (Mr. Taylor)—Fitness and Amateur Sport—Reported importation of drugs by Soviet athletes.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[Translation]

INVESTMENT CANADA ACT

MEASURE TO ENACT

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Stevens: That Bill C-15, an Act respecting investment in Canada, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Regional Development.

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal-Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to speak on this Bill which, contrary to that party's commitments, is again intended to steal jobs from working men and women. Despite suggestions from some of the Progressive Conservative Members, nowhere does the legislation ensure that there will be more jobs in Canada. Despite suggestions from some of the Members, nowhere does it ensure that in any area, any province or any constituency there will be more jobs. But on the other hand, this legislation offers no guarantee that in any area or constituency there will be no loss of jobs. And I well understand why the Liberal Party, which forms the Official Opposition is not supporting the legislation as submitted. It is because when an American multinational corporation, as mentioned by the Prime Minister, decides to take over a number of small businesses, and there is a recession as has already occurred in some particular area of the economy, the decisions will be made in the United States rather than in Canada, and the financiers will decide to close down the Canadian subsidiaries in order to maintain production and employment in the United States, for which they are responsible. And in Canada, our companies will operate as mere warehouses and there will be lay-offs. There is no way the legislation can prevent that kind of situation.

Investment Canada Act

Earlier this week, a Progressive Conservative Member wanted to know of instances where foreign corporations had come to Canada and had been badly served. Some people's memory must be short. One only has to mention Iron Ore. That company's representatives came here to develop resources in Quebec, and when they realized there was nothing left to do, you know what they did. They appointed a Canadian businessman as president to smooth things out, to close it down and lay off people.

Other Members will recall ITT. At one point they came to develop our natural resources in Quebec, with no thought whatsoever of reforestation, of the future. And when they were finished, when things were no longer profitable, they closed down and told Quebecers: You look after yourselves!

Mr. Speaker, it is important in my view that each Member in this House should make sure that the legislation is improved. I have no objection to investors from any country coming here in Canada to invest. But one thing must be ensured, namely that jobs are created and that economic and social policies in Canada do not end up being determined by foreign investors.

• (1630)

There is another ambiguity. If you read the speech the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) delivered in New York and examine the bill, you realize there is a very serious problem with this government because the Prime Minister always says different things in different places and you never know when he speaks the truth.

On page 4 of his speech, the Prime Minister of Canada mentions that he went to meet the President of the United States. I am of the opinion that he went to take the President's orders.

And finally, he announced that the President of the United States would come and check in Canada whether the Prime Minister of our country has complied with his orders.

Not only does he provide the answer to establish good relations between Canada and the United States, he also asks that regular meetings be held between both levels, that is between the President and the Prime Minister and also at the ministerial level. With such an attitude, I wonder who will govern Canada. Will the ministers of the Canadian government have to adjust to the decisions taken by American governors?

It should not be forgotten that our friends and neighbours are an important power. I find it hard to imagine the Minister of Finance (Mr. Wilson) and some other ministers discussing with representatives of the American government. I rather suspect they will enter those meetings with set ideas, and come out sharing the American views. After 15 to 20 years of that kind of attitude, the Americans will dictate not only our economic fate but also our social policy.