

ensure that the perspectives of both levels of government are brought to the attention of the investor. In discussing individual cases with investors, the factors which the federal government would look at are, of course, the same ones as are specified in subsection 2(2) of the act.

There is one other matter on which I would like to comment, the question of what constitutes an "unrelated" business. With the permission of the House, I would like to table some preliminary guidelines as to when a business might be unrelated to a business already carried on in Canada. This is necessary as new investments by foreign-controlled firms now operating in Canada into unrelated lines of activity constitute a category of new investment that will be subject to review after second proclamation.

These guidelines are intended to assist investors in determining whether they should be discussing their new investment plans with the government prior to second proclamation. I want also, at this time, to invite comments and suggestions, both of a general and detailed nature, from all interested groups concerning these preliminary guidelines on related business with a view to the establishment of more definitive guidelines after the second proclamation. If I can receive all views on this subject within the next four to six months, this will provide the government with an adequate opportunity to study and evaluate all representations prior to second proclamation.

I look forward to receiving co-operation from members of the business community, both in Canada and abroad.

Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Section 41(2) I should like to table the preliminary guidelines in both official languages.

**Hon. Paul Hellyer (Trinity):** Mr. Speaker, this is a very interesting announcement. First, the minister advised he cannot say when the proclamation of Part I will take place. He then goes on to tell us he cannot tell us when the proclamation of Part II will take place. He then went on to say, at least by inference, that after years of preparation no significant guidelines are prepared and ready to release to Canadian businessmen, not even interim guidelines in many areas. It would seem that the essence of an industrial strategy is forward planning.

The minister says that the lack of guidelines is not serious because the criteria are set out in the act, but these are so vague that they could be subject to any interpretation. As everyone knows, they are totally subjective. As a matter of fact, they are so vague that one person could find any foreign investment to provide significant benefit to Canada and another would find just the contrary, depending on his personal point of view.

Finally, in desperation, the poor, confused businessman is being asked to consult with the minister's officials in respect of this matter in the interim period until the act is proclaimed. In addition, the release is so badly drafted that it is not clear whether the foreign investors are being advised to consult with the officials about their plans, the plans of the foreign investors, or whether they are to consult with the officials about the plans of the officials. This ambiguity should be cleared up at the earliest possible time.

The minister said: "... any plans they might have involving large new investments in Canada or involving acquisitions of large or medium-sized Canadian busi-

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nesses or involving acquisitions of Canadian businesses in particularly sensitive areas, for example, businesses in the cultural area or owning an important technology." If the minister is referring to the plans of his officials, why did he not refer to the plans of the government? Obviously because the government has no plans.

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

**Mr. Hellyer:** Obviously because the minister has no plans. Obviously because the minister gave the officials no guidelines as to how they should operate. The question now arises as to who in fact is running the department, because the guidelines are apparently to come up rather than go down from the minister and the government.

Having made the suggestion, he goes on to say that in discussing individual cases the factors to be looked at are those set out in the bill. This is passing strange when it is universally agreed that the criteria in the act are almost infinitely vague. They are like the artificial fog used by movie makers to obscure and then obliterate the silhouette of the set and the actors on it.

The minister then asks for help with guidelines to determine what in fact constitutes a related business. The minister should have done this long ago, preferably before the act was passed.

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

**Mr. Hellyer:** Today he asks for help in order to prepare more definite guidelines than the temporary guidelines he issued today. A quick reading of the temporary guidelines underlines how desperately the minister needs help.

Someone in the oil business could enter the coal business, the atomic energy business, the solar energy business, the tidal power business, the hydrogen fusion business or perhaps even the cattle business to produce manure from which energy could be recovered. Someone in the automobile business could enter the locomotive business, begin building ships, manufacture snowmobiles, carriages or bicycles or, as a last resort, manufacture boots and shoes, excluding work boots.

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

**Mr. Hellyer:** Guideline (b) permits total vertical integration which, in the case of a number of foreign owned industries, will permit them almost total freedom of access to vaguely related fields.

In making this statement today the minister added to the confusion in a hurtful and alarming manner. If the government's energy and industrial policies are as uncertain as its foreign ownership policy, one can only say, God help Canada.

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

**Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville):** Mr. Speaker, I thank the minister for making a copy of his statement available to us in order to give us an opportunity to go through it. However, I must say I find it very unclear. The hon. member for Trinity (Mr. Hellyer) said that when the bill was before the House a few months ago it did have very precise definitions. I find that the guidelines are not