

There was a study done by the Science Council of Canada, even given the present regulations of FIRA, and it indicated we are in a situation where most foreign firms were not spending as much money on research in Canada as Canadian-based firms. Further to that, where there was federal or provincial Government money put into a research project, Canadian firms on average matched that with the same number of dollars of their own money. Not in each and every case but on average. However, that did not happen when it was a foreign-owned corporation. In some cases it did happen and probably in a very beneficial way. However, on average, foreign-owned firms were not matching the money they received from the Canadian Government or provincial Governments.

● (1210)

By denying the amendment put forward by the Member for Essex-Windsor (Mr. Langdon), we are making it impossible for the Government to develop strategies for research *vis-à-vis* foreign-owned firms in the nation. We are a nation with our own problems but also with our own advantages. In order to develop we must be able to take advantage of the capacity of Canadians, their youth and relatively good education. We can do a lot in Canada based on our cheap hydro resources. We have a chance to develop but cannot take advantage of that as long as that development can be taken over in the future without any input from government whatsoever.

I come from a riding which is quite large geographically. It is two-thirds of the Province of Manitoba.

Mr. Lewis: Two-thirds of nothing.

Mr. Murphy: I hope you are on record for that one. I will be using it in my next campaign literature. I suspect the Member from the Conservative Party regrets saying what he did, because I certainly would use it in my next campaign literature.

I represent a riding which encompasses two-thirds of the Province of Manitoba. Jobs have been created by foreign investment in northern Manitoba. The City of Thompson has a fair sized workforce. Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting in Flin-Flon has a fair sized workforce. Those exist in part because of foreign investment. However, since there has been no Government strategy with regard to that investment, almost no research has taken place in those communities. Almost no women are hired by those companies. Despite the fact that the cities I mentioned are situated in the middle of a huge native population, there are almost no native people employed by those corporations.

Through the amendment before the House we are saying that the Governments of the day should consider affirmative action when foreign companies come into the country. Government should set forth the goals of Canadians, such as having more women and native people employed, having more research done, and having more regional development occurring in the nation. The Government should discuss these goals with the corporations as part of the decision-making process on

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whether there should be a foreign take-over. I think that is quite reasonable. Regardless of political philosophy, that is an expectation that most Canadians have of government. Government should have concern about how Canada is developed rather than only that it is developed.

That is what this very clear and precise amendment put forward by my colleague does. It does not say that foreign investors cannot come into Canada or that they must do 15,000 things in order to take over a particular Canadian firm. It does say that government should study any proposed investment and determine whether the appropriate terms and conditions are there. The amendment says that those terms and conditions should be established. This is not a very socialistic measure, Mr. Speaker. It simply says that we have a right to have input in our own future and that government should set out certain terms and conditions as to how the development of Canada should take place.

Mr. Brian Tobin (Humber-Port au Port-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, I am glad to have the opportunity to speak on the amendments to Bill C-15. Both the Official Opposition and Members of the New Democratic Party have recognized, from the time the Minister presented this Bill to the House, and in particular in studying the Bill in committee, that the Minister has really not given any fair consideration to the concerns that have been raised by Members of the Opposition in this Parliament with respect to Bill C-15.

Mr. Stevens: We reviewed it fully.

Mr. Tobin: The Minister says that he has reviewed it fully. The Minister has created a Bill, the net effect of which will be to allow foreign investment to come into the country and cherry pick Canadian industries. The primary onus or initiative that existed in the Foreign Investment Review Agency, formed by the Liberal Party when in power, was to determine what foreign investment was good for Canada and would contribute to this country's national objectives and long-term economic health. Those measures, which were implicit in the Foreign Investment Review Act, have been totally wiped out by Bill C-15. We now have a Bill which allows foreign investors to come into Canada and take the best and leave the rest, that which is unproductive, inefficient, old and outdated and needs retooling, to the Minister and the taxpayers of Canada to look after.

A particularly vulnerable and sensitive industry is the fishery. Fishing operations can be picked up a piece at a time for less than \$5 million. In Atlantic Canada foreign investment could come in without bringing any new technology or creating one single new job.

In the Atlantic fishery, aside from giants such as Nicker-son's National Sea and FPI, small independent companies which can be bought for a lot less than \$5 million, and therefore would not have to be reviewed by the Minister's agency under this Act, represent about 50 per cent of the total production of the fishery in Atlantic Canada. This Bill could now make it possible for foreign interests, which do not now