

*Supply*

velopment Association Act and to amend certain other Acts in consequence thereof; and Bill C-33, an Act respecting the import and export of and interprovincial trade in meat products, the registration of establishments, the inspection of animals and meat products in registered establishments and the standards for those establishments and for animals slaughtered and meat products prepared in those establishments.

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**THE ROYAL ASSENT**

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** I have the honour to inform the House that a communication has been received which is as follows:

Government House

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that The Right Honourable Brian Dickson, The Chief Justice of Canada, in his capacity as Deputy Governor General, will proceed to the Senate Chamber today, the 16th day of May, 1985, at 5.55 p.m., for the purpose of giving Royal Assent to certain Bills.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,  
A.P. Smyth

Deputy Secretary to the Governor General

● (1540)

**GOVERNMENT ORDERS**

[English]

**BUSINESS OF SUPPLY**

ALLOTTED DAY, S.O. 62—FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT—TIME ALLOCATION

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Axworthy:

That this House condemns the Government, not only for its failure to protect Canada from potential problems of foreign direct investments as demonstrated by the Government's failure to take effective action in dealing with foreign take-overs in the cases of Mitel and of the book publishing industry, but also for its contempt for the parliamentary process by cutting off free debate on its iniquitous investment legislation without providing adequate time for consideration of dozens of important and constructive amendments.

**Mr. Penner:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. The Hon. Parliamentary Secretary who just spoke—I don't know whether intentionally or inadvertently in the heat of debate—made a government announcement regarding the quotas on manufactured beef from the European Common Market. The red meat industry is anxiously awaiting this news. I would like to ask, on a point of order, whether that in fact was a government announcement. If it was, could we have more information and could we ask questions on that government

announcement? If it was not, if it was just a slip or a leak, I wonder how soon we can expect this announcement from the Government?

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. I regret to inform the Hon. Member that, unfortunately, I do not consider that to be a point of order.

**Mr. Bob Brisco (Kootenay West):** Mr. Speaker, I am not surprised that immediately after having spoken, the Hon. Member is no longer available so that the record could be corrected. I would like to total up the hours spent on Bill C-15. There were 40 hours in all in the House and 40 hours in committee. Simple arithmetic would lead one to believe that that is 80 hours. The Hon. Member would have us believe that 20 hours were spent on the Bill, but with selective memory recall he said that that only applied to the House. But 20 hours times two equals 40 hours, plus 40 hours in committee. Let that stand on the record as being a point beyond challenge.

I have a great deal of pleasure to be able to debate Bill C-15 today. I do so in the context of the announcement yesterday by the same Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion (Mr. Stevens) who brought Bill C-15 before the House. Yesterday he announced a general development agreement with the province of British Columbia, which is historical because of the large amount of money involved. Never before has an ERDA agreement of such scope and dimension been signed. It is for \$525 million which is to be jointly shared by the Province of British Columbia and the federal Government.

It think it is very important to realize that within the framework of that \$525 million, \$300 million has been specifically earmarked for the forestry sector. This is a recognition of the degree to which the forestry sector of British Columbia and, for that matter, of Canada, has deteriorated over the past several generations as a result of the notable lack of attention paid to it. I think it is fair to say that a Conservative Government, given the opportunity and different times in terms of the availability of money, would have doubled the contribution to the forestry sector.

Critics of the Minister of State for Forestry (Mr. Merri-threw) are quick to agree that probably what is needed is a \$600 million agreement over five years, not \$300 million. But, Mr. Speaker, we have done what we could and I would like you to compare it, Mr. Speaker, to the measly and trivial sum of \$5 million which was last given by the former federal Government forestry in British Columbia. Not only are we attending to our resources in terms of our forests, but we are also working toward a better degree of stabilization of another resource, which is more important than any other, and that is, the people. By the signing of this agreement, we will have an opportunity to create a substantial number of permanent employment opportunities in the forestry sector alone.

I look forward very much to seeing a change in the unemployment figures for the regional district of Central Kootenay. It is faced with an unemployment situation which statistically shows a 27.4 per cent level, but that is a statistic only in terms of those who are registered with manpower. Clearly the figures