

Investment Canada Act

and said that France promotes domestic investment, and I imagine he meant that it discourages foreign investment of at least is not as favourable to foreign investors as Canada will now be. I was in France recently, Mr. Speaker, as President of the Canada-France Parliamentary Association and I was taken around various regions by Socialist Members of the Government who took me to such places as the Dordogne, and I also visited Alsace with a Centrist Member of the National Assembly. Everywhere I found that these parliamentarians, whether Socialists or Centrists, all said: You know, our greatest problem is to update our industries; the major problem is that our nationalized industries are not up to date; we had a lot more problems with Renault than with Peugeot; during the crisis, Peugeot acted with courage and showed good management as it should have done. They tightened their belts, made changes in job training and became more competitive, while Renault, because of the state bureaucracy, was slower to react, which caused us to lose markets, and we are now in difficulty.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, even in France where there is a Socialist Government, people realize that the economy is a reality and has nothing to do with theory, rhetorics and ideology. This Bill falls pretty much into line with the attitude now prevailing in France as well, because the Government there had to acknowledge the mistake it made early in its mandate in creating artificial jobs in the public service. It made mistakes in discouraging the private sector, and it now finds that the answers to its problems are the same as those we are suggesting. Therefore, I am quite ready to support this Bill. We shall be watchful in this case as in the case of our other pieces of legislation, such as the incentives for Canadian businesses that deal with the Government to provide equal opportunities for women. It is through this type of legislation, and I am not talking about Bill C-15 which deals with investment, but about the Bill introduced by the Minister of Employment and Immigration (Miss Macdonald), that we shall be in a position to ensure equality for women. I therefore find it passing strange to hear my colleagues speak about foreign investment as though it were a multi-headed monster which will swallow us, emasculate our men, eliminate equal opportunities for our women and ruin our cultural sector.

I think that Members opposite should try to live in this day and age. It is good to live today, better than yesterday, and it will be even better tomorrow.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest): Questions, comments. The Hon. Member for Ottawa-Vanier (Mr. Gauthier) has the floor.

Mr. Gauthier: Either the Hon. Member for Gatineau (Mrs. Mailly) is dreaming in colour, Mr. Speaker, or she has not followed the debate. We have never said that foreign investments were bad for Canada. We have said that the foreign control of the Canadian economy was not particularly desirable. We have criticized the Bill in a constructive way in an

effort to improve it. We have never said that foreign interests are not welcome in Canada. Far from that! They are quite welcome, but we would like them first to be subjected to a review process to make sure that Canada—

An Hon. Member: One o'clock!

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest): I am really sorry. It being one o'clock, I do now leave the chair until 2 p.m.

At one o'clock, the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S.O. 21

[English]

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT
STATEMENTS BY MR. CROSBIE

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry-Prescott-Russell): Mr. Speaker, while the Minister of Justice (Mr. Crosbie) yesterday put on a display of fireworks full of sound and fury, after his display of the day before in the House of Commons, for the most part this signified nothing. His remarks concerning the Hon. Member for Hamilton East (Ms. Copps), calling her "baby", a "titmouse", and a "poltroon", while being cheered on by other members of the Government, finally exposed the Tory attitude toward the women of the country.

What an insult to women to hear the derogatory remarks—

Mr. Dick: Is she a woman?

Mr. Boudria: —of the Minister of Justice, responsible for equality of women, whose feeble mind could only find one area in which to criticize the distinguished Member for Hamilton East, that being the fact that she is a woman.

Derogatory and sexist remarks such as "baby" and "poltroon" ought to be made unparliamentary. What is a poltroon? It is a worthless wretch. That is what the Minister of Justice and his cheering cronies on the other side consider a woman who stands up for herself on issues that she strongly believes in.

We remember the women's debate last summer during the campaign. Where is all the Tory concern for women now? "Poltroon" sums up how the Tories see women. First, broken promises, and now insults. Not only the Minister of Justice, but the whole Tory caucus, owe women an apology. Instead of letting him flounder like a bellowing, beached whale, the Tory Members gave that discredited Minister a standing ovation. The Tories promised—