

site direction. The first piece of business, once we came back from the post-referendum episode, when we are supposed to be getting back to business and creating economic prosperity, is about the dismantling of a Canadian industry in Toronto, in Winnipeg and elsewhere.

If the government has learned anything from the referendum message, if it has listened to the deep disaffection that Canadians have, it will do the honourable thing in this legislation. It should not satisfy the needs of multinational corporations, those that the Prime Minister wishes to sing to. It should look after the needs of the people. From there, we will be able to build successfully. Start at home and let us do away with Bill C-91.

**Mrs. Dorothy Dobbie (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and Minister of State (Agriculture)):** Mr. Speaker, I listened with a great deal of interest to what my friend opposite had to say about this bill. I was a little surprised because it would seem to be in direct contradiction to what I heard during Question Period when there was a lot of rhetoric about jobs, jobs, jobs.

If we are looking at jobs for Canadians then we should look at the record and see what the innovative drug companies have done in creating jobs since 1987.

Right now the innovative industry, the industry that will be looking forward to investing more money in Canada, employs about 18,000 people in this country. Since 1987, with the advent of Bill C-22, they added about 2,400 new jobs. This is 2,400 new jobs just because of Bill C-22.

At that time I was not a member of the House, but I remember as a citizen being frightened because of the dire predictions of the opposition about what would happen if we passed Bill C-22. What happened is that we got 2,400 new jobs in Canada. We got a doubling of the R and D investment to the 10 per cent promised by 1996. It has already happened and it is not even the end of 1992.

Therefore, I have to ask the hon. member why he is making these comments against Bill C-91 and why he is trying to scare seniors by making all kinds of threats and predictions about rising costs. That worries me because there are a lot of seniors in my riding, as I am sure there are a lot of seniors in the hon. member's riding as well. It

is highly unfair and highly inappropriate to make predictions about rising costs of prescription drugs that make seniors and others who have little ability to defend themselves to quake in their shoes in fear.

The hon. member can tell me if I am correct. I would like to get his opinion. The facts are that only 20 per cent of all of the drugs that are bought over the counter by people or through their doctor's prescriptions are patented. Those are the drugs we are talking about here. That is the portion of the bill that seniors and others would have to bear and only 20 per cent will be affected by this bill.

The hon. member has been saying that the prices review board was not effective.

**An hon. member:** Ask your question.

**Mrs. Dobbie:** This is a period for questions and comments. I can make my comment and then pose my question. He says that the prices review board has not been effective. The facts speak for themselves. The prices of these drugs under patent, not the patents that are being unfairly encroached upon because of special licensing created by the Liberals, have only increased by 2.9 per cent while the CPI has raised by 4.4 per cent.

I would like to hear the hon. member defend his dire predictions about price increases that frighten the elderly and people on fixed incomes. They are totally unfounded according to the facts and figures that I have.

**Mr. Marchi:** Mr. Speaker, I was not trying to scare seniors. I was trying to appeal to seniors to look into this issue. There is nothing more scary to seniors than this government. If the member wants facts and figures she should start with her home province.

She talks about the CPI rate. Since 1987 the health plan in her province of Manitoba has gone up, since Bill C-22 arrived, some 12.3 per cent.

Second, she talks about the need to create jobs and investment and how dare I criticize Bill C-91. In Bill C-22 her colleagues promised an avalanche of jobs in research from the brand name companies.

**An hon. member:** Overnight.

**Mr. Marchi:** Let us keep it in perspective. The brand name multinational corporations enjoy 90 per cent plus of the pharmaceutical market in this country. We are