Adjournment Motion

to the community or country and, yes, to the workers in the plant or establishment in which that investment occurs.

We have seen in our country the use of foreign investment to further our development. We have also seen the degree to which foreign investment has meant a repatriation of profits. We have seen a patriation from Canada to the United States of the engineering and research and development components of the company or enterprise that has been taken over. We have seen Canada used as surplus capacity because of such investments. We have seen decisions taken that will not be in the economic interests of Canada, Canadians or the communities affected.

We cannot afford to let Investment Canada be perceived as fire sale Canada. The coincidence between the establishment of this agency and the Government's expressed intention to sell off any Crown corporations for which it can find buyers is surely a little too compelling, particularly in the minds of the observers, those who have the cash and the capital and who might make investments. Therefore, I call upon the House to support this motion and to delay for a six-month period consideration of Bill C-15.

• (1610)

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 45, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: The Hon. Member for Algoma (Mr. Foster)—Agriculture—Effect of bank interest rates on farmers. (b) Government action; The Hon. Member for York Centre (Mr. Kaplan)—Administration of Justice—Unlicensed cable television operators—Prosecution query. (b) Minister's position; the Hon. Member for Ottawa Centre (Mr. Cassidy)—Government Advertising—Awarding of contract. (b) Measures taken by Government.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[Translation]

INVESTMENT CANADA ACT

MEASURE TO ENACT

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Stevens that Bill C-15, an Act respecting investment in Canada, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Regional Development, and the amendment thereto by Mr. Gray (Windsor West) (p. 1302).

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa-Vanier): Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to take part in this debate on the amendment proposed by my colleague from Windsor West (Mr. Gray), namely that Bill C-15 be not now read a second time but be read a second time six months hence. As you know, Mr. Speaker, we proposed this amendment to give all Members of this House a chance to speak to this very important legislation, Bill C-15. No great feats of imagination are necessary to find clear-cut examples of foreign takeovers in Canadian industry, business and the economy in every riding and every region in our country, and the reason this screening agency was proposed a number of years ago was to strengthen our Canadian economy, not only for its own sake but also to safeguard jobs and, by promoting research and development, to create more economic activity that would produce more jobs.

We are not the only country in the world to set up a screening agency. The Americans have their own procedures and Japan and several other countries have government agencies that are supposed to control foreign takeovers. In the United States, foreign companies may not control companies in certain economic sectors including marine transportation, broadcasting, air transportation and defence production. It is absolutely impossible for a foreign country or corporation to take control of such industries. Australia, for instance, has a Foreign Investment Review Board very similar to our own and Japan exercises very extensive control over foreign investment.

This kind of measure is not out of the ordinary, in that it is already being used in many countries to screen investment.

Mr. Speaker, according to a number of observers, this Bill more or less proposes to open wide the doors of this country to foreign investment, which obviously implies foreign control over very significant economic sectors, whether industrial, commercial or other. I am thinking of a few examples in my own riding of Ottawa-Vanier, which is not an industrial riding, since it has a high percentage of professionals and public servants who are employed by the Government to indeed serve the public. The largest employer in my riding is the University of Ottawa, which has 3,000 employees in Ottawa-Vanier.

Two years ago, the University was having serious problems with its bookstore. Sales were declining, administration costs were very high, and the bookstore was losing between \$100,-