

S. O. 21

consider it, it might very well be to the advantage of all of us to report back speedily.

[*Translation*]

The proceedings of the House are adjourned until 2 p.m.

The House rose at 1.25 p.m.

SITTING RESUMED

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S. O. 21

[*English*]

PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY

PATENT ACT—OPPOSITION TO AMENDING LEGISLATION

Mr. Dave Dingwall (Cape Breton—East Richmond): Mr. Speaker, it is high time the Government took the time to listen to what Canadians and the organizations that represent them are saying about Bill C-22 and the proposed changes to the Patent Act affecting prescription drugs in Canada.

The Consumers' Association of Canada stated before the legislative committee that studied the Bill that:

We do not see anything in the bill that really gives a guarantee that Canadians can receive the benefits that are promised in the press releases—

Unless we are careful in writing something into the act to guarantee that research promises relate to net jobs, we could actually end up being had.

Another quotation reads:

—if the bill is going to do something for Canada on the research front it will have to contain some specific target, like an 8 per cent or 10 per cent performance target for research and development per firm on the basis of the firm's sales.

It is time the Government listened to the opinion of Canadians about this terrible piece of legislation. Canadians want this Bill withdrawn. I call upon the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs (Mr. Andre) to come to his senses, and to withdraw it immediately.

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THE CONSTITUTION

SUPPORT FOR PROTECTION OF RIGHT TO LIFE OF THE UNBORN

Mr. Paul Gagnon (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, next week we will have the fourth hour of debate on M-37, a motion proposed by the Hon. Member for Grey—Simcoe (Mr. Mitges). It is of great importance to many Canadians because it would grant to the unborn the right to life, liberty, and security of the person.

In the riding of Calgary North some 37,000 households received a questionnaire with respect to this measure. Some

1,895 people responded. The results show that 1,251 believe the motion should pass, while 622 think it should be rejected.

Some 66 per cent of the respondents in Calgary North support the protection of the unborn. I trust other members have notified their constituents of this motion and that they have inquired as to their feelings toward it.

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WILDLIFE

PORCUPINE CARIBOU HERD—DANGER PRESENTED BY U.S. OIL EXPLORATION PLANS

Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg—Birds Hill): Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the NDP I would like to protest the fact that the U.S. Department of the Interior plans to go ahead with oil exploration and development within the Alaska Arctic Wildlife Refuge, a move which Canada opposes because of the danger to the Porcupine caribou herd, and the native people who depend on it.

In ignoring Canadian concerns the Americans are showing contempt for the value of wildlife, for the rights of aboriginal people, and for the tradition of joint Canadian-American management of the shared resource which the migrating caribou represent. Even the U.S. National Wildlife Federation called the U.S. action a case of "arrogant disregard".

The U.S. is increasingly regarding its own north and the Canadian North as an area which exists only for the economic and military purposes of the majority to the south. Canadian sovereignty in the north must be built on respect for native people, for wildlife, and for the environment. I say to the Government that strongly protesting this unilateral American action is a good place to start.

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VIA RAIL

CHANGES IN SERVICE AFFECTING GUELPH

Mr. William C. Winegard (Guelph): Mr. Speaker, if there is a more arrogant organization in Canada than VIA Rail I hope we never hear of it.

VIA promised the people of Guelph a liaison committee to discuss problems and changes. We got our committee, and we got a lot of smoke as well. We also have two changes which were not discussed with anyone. We were ignored, Mr. Hanigan, until your letter telling us of the deleted train from Toronto to Guelph, Kitchener and London, and the untenable change of time of another. So much for consultation. So much for liaison. So much for the public. Thank you, VIA Rail.