

Adjournment Debate

Industrial development of new chemicals occurs primarily in foreign countries. Extensive growth of private laboratories engaged in safety evaluation of chemicals has taken place in recent years in the U.S. and Europe. In comparison to Canada, which has fewer than five such laboratories engaged primarily in drug testing, the United States has in excess of 100. Since Canadian industries rely heavily on their U.S. or European counterparts to undertake safety studies, they have demonstrated only limited interest in developing Canadian expertise in toxicology.

The Department of National Health and Welfare has played a lead role in assessing resources required to develop and maintain Canadian expertise in this vital field. Develop-

ment of a first-class, internationally recognized research and training facility in Canada would involve financial commitments of up to \$10 million per year for a minimum of eight years. In addition, an initial commitment of \$20 million would be required to build adequate laboratories. These moneys are very difficult to find in times of fiscal restraint with so many other priorities in health and other Canadian government policies. In addition, sustained financial support from the public sector would also be required to sustain such a facility.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. The motion to adjourn the House is now deemed to have been adopted. Accordingly, this House stands adjourned until two o'clock tomorrow afternoon.

Motion agreed to and the House adjourned at 10.29 p.m.