

On the one hand, we have the minister who was the same minister who negotiated the free trade agreement and now is the Minister of Industry, Trade and Technology. He is also the Minister for International Trade and he is negotiating on our behalf another agreement, which is this particular legislation that we are talking about. His negotiating skills are what we are talking about here today. On the one hand, we are removing roughly \$4 billion out of the pockets of Canadians. In essence this money is going to the U.S. because they are all multinationals. On the other hand, it is being suggested that we are getting \$500 million in research and development.

Under the research and development process there are also some tax incentives. The Canadian government provides in tax incentives to the large international companies which are into research and development in this country roughly 70 per cent of the bill. That means in essence they are paying 30 per cent out of their own pocket for research and development in this country.

It does not take a rocket scientist to understand that in essence the \$500 million that is being quoted is not \$500 million at all. It is a much smaller amount than that. It is only \$150 million.

We are asking Canadian consumers to pay roughly \$4 billion more in drug costs in the next 20 years in exchange for \$150 million in research and development. Can you imagine, what kind of negotiator I would have been in my previous life if I came back to the membership that I used to represent and gave them those numbers? That is in my previous life when I used to have a much more enjoyable time. That is because they did not give us 10 minute deadlines to speak in those days. If I did that, I would not last more than five minutes in that room with those people whom I represented.

What we are trying to suggest today to the government is that the minister's negotiating skills can only lead us to one conclusion. That conclusion is that it is his swan song before he goes back to the corporate world to be able to say to the corporate world: "Look what I gave you". He certainly is not giving the Canadian people anything to talk about, anything to be joyous about, any kind of a Christmas present.

What are we going to do?

### *Government Orders*

The NDP is suggesting that we are in bed with the Conservatives. I find that to be the most ludicrous thing I could ever think of, simply because in the last four years I have gone through the kind of NDP rhetoric we are hearing in the House today in Ontario. In Ontario, Bob Rae has said continually, and was elected for it, that he had an agenda for the people. He was going to give all sorts of improvements to Ontario. There were hundreds of promises and they were never fulfilled.

I caution Canadians when they listen to members from the NDP side saying that they are going to do the right thing if they get to be the government come election time. I know for a fact that is not true and I say to people out there be very careful when you accept that kind of rhetoric because we in Ontario know that is not the case.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Vincent Della Noce (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State of Canada and to Minister of Multiculturalism and Citizenship):** Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to speak in this debate on third reading of Bill C-91, an act to amend the Patent Act, 1992.

I have already spoken on this—

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois):** Order, please. I simply want to point out that we are at report stage, considering the report of the committee that examined Bill C-91.

**Mr. Della Noce:** Mr. Speaker, we will get there one day, that is for sure, because I believe that this bill is important. As I said in my last speech, it is so important for Quebec now that people are starting to talk only about it. I find it unfortunate that the member who just spoke gives his place to a party that will defend this bill, namely the Bloc Quebecois. We cannot really call it a party, we will just call it the Bloc Quebecois.

This morning, on coming to the House, I read *La Presse* and, before starting my speech, I would like to quote an article for my colleagues in the Liberal Party. I think it is too bad, because the Liberal Party was in power long enough to know the difference between good and bad. The article, dated December 8, 1992, was written by Mario Fontaine and has the caption, "Ghislain Dufour, president of the Conseil du patronat, together with Bloc Quebecois President Lucien Bouchard".