> I am greatly disturbed by your letter addressed to 'Dear Concerned Canadian' which crossed my desk today. I realize that it is a function of the opposition Parties to keep the Government honest and to improve suggested legislation.
>
> Your letter goes beyond that, however, and makes assertions that are totally incorrect and appeal to the emotions of concerned Canadians.

I did not make up the facts, I leave that to members of the Opposition. Indeed, I would be most pleased to provide copies of these letters to Hon. Members opposite as long as they promise to provide me with copies of their correspondence with these individuals.

To add insult to injury, the petitions directed to "Concerned Canadians" contained a letter that accurately described the Hon. Member's Party Leader, the Right Hon. Member for Vancouver Quadra (Mr. Turner), as being the proponent of the legislation this Government is attempting to change. He proposed it when he was Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs in 1968. The letter did not say, however, that this same right hon. gentleman, when he was chairman of the board of directors of an international pharmaceutical company, Sandoz Canada, on many occasions voiced his opposition to the very legislation he had introduced. I would be delighted to provide a copy of my correspondence if the right hon. gentleman could satisfactorily explain his conversion from advocate to opponent back to advocate.

I am not quite finished with the Liberals. In fact, I could go on at length if my time in this debate were not limited. I have to quote from an article from last May featuring the smiling face and words of the Hon. Member for Sudbury (Mr. Frith). I do not know if the Hon. member really believed what he was saying or if he was only catering to the media.

This interview appeared in the May edition of *Revue pharmaceutique canadienne*. The nub of the quotation in the article was that the Hon. Member believed it was time to redress the current policy and provide multinationals channels for more research and development dollars into Canada. In the article, he was quoted as saying the following:

> I may be branded as a heretic amongst Liberals in this country but I happen to believe in intellectual property rights, and I think the patent laws of 1969 went too far in one direction.

I would be pleased to provide a copy of this article to all Members opposite, because the picture really is a good likeness of the Hon. Member and it is such a pleasure to discover such a bright and alert member of the Opposition who so strongly supports our Government's policy in this area.

Let me turn now to the tactics of the NDP. I can understand why they always support the Liberals when the Liberals are in power. They think so much alike and their tactics are so similar.

I have here a copy of a coupon that was circulated to all those attending the recent NDP convention in Montreal. It has a good heading and is obviously the product of a national or multinational advertising agency probably based in Toronto. That is not quite the style of NDPers, but maybe their members will forgive them for this lapse in judgment. The heading reads: "Let's Bust the Tories' Drug Deal". It kind of makes you think we are running illicit drugs—the exact effect the NDP wants in order to raise the fears of average Canadians. It then suggests that our policy will cost Canadians $600 million a year in higher priced prescriptions.

• (1220)

Where is the proof for this contention or the contention that employers will be asking for cuts in union-negotiated drug plans? I have not heard of any astronomical rises in drug costs, nor have I heard of contract negotiations being stalled at the bargaining table because employers want to cut the health protection policies enjoyed by many unions. Like Liberal strategy, this approach simply plays upon the fears of Canadians, fears that are not supported by the facts.

We get a clue to the motivation of the NDP when we read the fine print of the bottom of this NDP advertisement, "Produced by the Canadian Labour Congress". Now, I have nothing against Canadian labour, but I do not think Canadian workers of any stripe will be taken in by such professional advertising tactics. That is what the Liberals and the NDP are trying to do to this legislation. They want to mask the benefits of our policy in scare tactics and rhetoric calculated to appeal to people who do not understand the issue and are willing to accept the narrow-minded thinking of Members opposite.

I am sure many of these adherents would be astonished to learn of the range of thinking on this issue by various members of the Liberal Party. I would not like to pry too deeply into the views of the various members of the NDP because I am sure the same kind of schizophrenic reactions would result.

I am saving the *pièce de résistance* for last. I have a copy of the resolutions approved by the last national Liberal convention. I know the Liberal Leader is not bound by these resolutions, but they certainly contribute to one side of the debate.

Resolution 13-K-4 supports increased research in the field of biotechnology. That is precisely what this Bill does. I never thought I would support a policy or proposal adopted on the floor of the Liberal convention, but I do. I can only hope that all the Liberals in my riding, if there are any, will vote for me in the next election because of my support.

I have put in place a policy to ensure that Canada moves into the forefront of biotechnological sciences. The results to date have demonstrated that we are going in the right direction. I would like to issue a challenge to the Liberals. Give me a list of all the Liberal delegates who approved Resolution 13-K-4 and I will give you the same list back of people who support the policy which is being debated in the House today.

There is more. Resolution 55-2E—I will never understand how Liberals number their resolutions, maybe it is just to confuse their Leader—encourages private sector participation in research and development. That is precisely what this Bill does.