

Patent Act

● (1240)

Some Hon. Members: Shame.

Mr. Boudria: Two hours and 23 minutes of debate on offensive legislation of this magnitude. That is what we are being subjected to in the House, the tyranny of the majority.

Mr. Orlikow: Dictatorship.

Mr. Boudria: The Tory tyranny.

Mr. Mazankowski: Eleven hours and 20 minutes.

Mr. Boudria: The Canadian people will not put up with this because they know what is right and they know that the Government is wrong.

Mr. Hawkes: Mr. Speaker, having participated in the tyranny of the minority on important causes like the Constitution of Canada, I have some comprehension of tyrannies on both sides of the House. It is one thing to talk about the time to be spent on debate, but I would like them to assess the time of the Chamber at \$500,000 a day that is being wasted on motions to adjourn and ringing the bells just to deal with the situation. There have been over 11 hours of debate.

I want to get to the substance of the Member's speech.

Mr. Riis: Remember the bells.

Mr. Hawkes: He came forward to say that he has done research that has shown what marvellous things the generic industry has done.

Mr. Riis: Charge the Speaker. Jump out of your seat.

Mr. Hawkes: He called it unbiased research. Ninety-three per cent of the drugs have no generic competition. I want the Hon. Member to give us his unbiased research about that 93 per cent of drugs that have no generic equivalent.

Mr. Rossi: What about the 14 days of bells?

Mr. Hawkes: How much are we being gouged? Will he admit that this Bill will put us in a position to order a roll back on 93 per cent of the drugs where the gouging may be occurring? Will he share his unbiased research with the House?

Mr. Rossi: You were the leader, remember the 14 days of bells.

Mr. Boudria: I want to tell the Member who has become worked up over this issue that with regard to the cost for the amount of time taken in the House for the Bill, and that it cost \$500,000 a day to operate Parliament, that I do not apologize for the price of democracy. It is a darn sight better than anything else, at any price.

Second, the price-tag for the Bill we are talking about is \$650 million.

Mr. Mazankowski: Prove it.

Mr. Boudria: The House could sit a long time for that price.

The Hon. Member tells us about the time being spent by the House on an issue. It is difficult for me to take moral lessons from a group of individuals and the Member himself who was responsible in whole or in part for an event some years ago involving a couple of weeks of Parliament just listening to bells. I have no moral lessons to take from him on that issue.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, I want to set the record straight for *Hansard* with regard to exactly how much time has been spent, not on the substance of the Bill, but on the delaying tactics of the Opposition. The Chair should note that we have spent 11 hours and 20 minutes on the nonsense. They never wanted to get to the substance of the Bill because they are afraid of it. They do not want research and development and jobs for Canadians.

Mr. Riis: How much time on the Bill?

Mr. Lewis: That is before today. There is more nonsense when one considers the time that has been spent today.

Mr. Blackburn (Brant): Just withdraw the Bill.

Mr. Lewis: Why does the Opposition refuse to allow us to go ahead with a Bill that will bring research and development to Canada and help find cures for disease, and provide jobs for Canadians? Why all this time on useless delay?

Mr. Boudria: Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member says that there has been 11 hours on what he has referred to as nonsense. I do not know of any parliamentary process or procedure in the House which could be called nonsense. As far as I am concerned, procedures involving the rights and privileges of Members of Parliament are just that and cannot be categorized in any way, shape or form as nonsense, even by that Parliamentary Secretary. He said that 11 hours have been used in that way. I want to remind the House that the notice of time allocation was given after two hours and 23 minutes of debate.

Mr. Mazankowski: Eleven hours, and you know it.

Mr. Boudria: Time allocation itself was moved after two hours, 39 minutes of debate. There has been two hours, 23 minutes of debate if we just consider the time involved between the beginning of the debate and when the notice of motion was given in the House.

Mr. Mazankowski: Eleven hours of frustration.

Mr. Boudria: In my view, that is unsatisfactory. The Deputy Prime Minister (Mr. Mazankowski) says: "Eleven hours". I disagree with that. Even if we did take 11 hours, does not a \$650 million assault on Canadian taxpayers deserve 11 hours? It requires all the time of the House because it is an important issue for my constituents and the constituents of everyone else in the Chamber. We will take whatever time is needed.