

debate and clause by clause analysis in the legislative committee. Such was not the case. The fact that these thoughtful amendments, which were put forward by all sides of the House, were not supported creates even greater motivation to oppose this legislation, badly drafted at the beginning and which, unfortunately, at the this third and final stage remains badly drafted.

Mr. Orlikow: Mr. Speaker, could the Hon. Member tell me whether he has had the same experience that I have had; that is, members of the Mennonite, the Roman Catholic and the Anglican churches who have been involved in helping refugees settle in Winnipeg and other parts of Manitoba have made it very clear to me, and I think to other Members of Parliament from all three Parties in Manitoba, that they consider that what they have been doing is something based on the best of motives, namely, for humanitarian reasons and they do not believe that their action breaks the provision of any reasonable law? They intend to continue to help refugees who come to Manitoba. If that means breaking the law, they are prepared to pay whatever the price is for breaking the law. Has the Hon. Member for Kamloops—Shuswap had similar experience in discussion with people in his area of Canada?

Mr. Riis: Mr. Speaker, one of the interventions that I received on Bill C-84, as well as its complementary legislation, Bill C-55, was by various church groups in my constituency and, perhaps more appropriately, by various religious groups. I had passages pointed out to me from the Koran, the Bible, the holy books of the Sikh religion and others that the basic tenets of virtually every religion is to help those experiencing persecution and in serious need. That is all we are asking. Witnesses before the committee asked that as a decent society we do our best to help and facilitate those who have experienced such terribly horrible times in their own countries. The compassion shown by the Government of Canada under two administrations, regarding the boat people, the willingness of Canadians to sponsor boat people with the Government of Canada and the welcoming initiatives that occurred in communities right across Canada, was something to behold and about which all of us felt very proud. That tradition is being challenged today. This Bill erodes the tradition of giving, caring, compassion and decency.

I urge Government Members who, for whatever reason, are supporting this legislation—and I say for whatever reason because I have not seen a shred of evidence that this is good legislation—to reconsider their position. As respectable, hard working, decent parliamentarians I hope that when the third reading vote comes sometime in the future the majority of Members of the House of Commons will vote against the Bill so we can proceed to develop a Bill that will meet the real needs of Canadian society and the refugees coming to our shores.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It being one o'clock I do now leave the Chair until two o'clock.

At 12.59 p.m. the House took recess.

S. O. 21

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S. O. 21

[*Translation*]

PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY

SENATE INVITED TO PASS BILL C-22

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal—Sainte-Marie): Yesterday, Mr. Speaker, Montreal was the site of a meeting to form a coalition representing management, labour, community organizations, the Fédération de l'Âge d'Or du Québec, as well as spokesmen for political circles. Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this coalition is to urge the Senate to stop blocking Bill C-22 on drug patents.

Mr. Speaker, I should like to associate myself with this coalition and urge the senators to say: Enough is enough! We have wasted too much time as it is, we must respect the decision of the elected Members of the House of Commons.

Although I do not fully support the Bill as drafted, Mr. Speaker, I think the joke is getting stale. The coalition of Quebecers wants the senators to show respect for the elected House and pass this Bill at the earliest opportunity.

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ESTABLISHMENT OF PAPERMILL IN MATANE—GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE

Mr. Jean-Luc Joncas (Matapédia—Matane): Mr. Speaker, my constituents are hoping that the green light will soon be given to a major project which could put an end to obvious economic stagnation in the region.

The Quebec Government and the Donohue Company, which is planning to locate a papermill in Matane, have already done a lot of work on this project. It is now up to us, politicians, to authorize this regional project at the Cabinet level. The promoters have until now demonstrated their will to help the region, and they would like some assistance from our Government.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to draw the attention of my colleagues in the Cabinet to this issue, which they will be examining in the near future. I remind them that our Government promised to bring this project forward if the investors did their share.

Mr. Speaker, my constituents have been very patient and they now expect an answer.