

pared to ram the Investment Canada Bill through parliament without considering the important amendments which our Party and the Liberals have put forward suggests to me that the Government does not understand the issue of foreign investment and foreign ownership.

Not only are we talking about the loss of an important and major telecommunications company, my hon. colleague, the Member for Essex-Windsor (Mr. Langdon) pointed out that the style of management of British Telecom is still very unproven. Until a few years ago it was hardly the model of a driving, vigorous and progressive entrepreneurship that one would like to see as a partner in Mitel. British Telecom has improved recently, but it must still prove itself as a privatized company.

Conservative Members have raised concerns about state owned industries being non-progressive. It is quite clear that these concerns are not legitimate because Canadian national and Air Canada are two dynamic publicly-owned corporations of which Canadians can be proud. However, British Telecom and other British Crown corporations face some problems which, in many cases, have occurred under Conservative rule. I suggest that we are casting Mitel into a very murky future.

Mitel may no longer make the same contribution in the Ottawa area. There has been a very healthy competition between Mitel and Northern Telecom. Northern Telecom is a very successful Canadian company, and Mitel, one-tenth the size of Northern Telecom, vigorously, competes with Northern Telecom in terms of technology, marketing and production in a number of key products. That situation will be vitiated and we will all be the losers as a result.

I fear that this is only the first step of many such examples that we may see over the course of the next three or four years. There is no question that the Progressive Conservatives have a mandate to govern for three or four years, but their mandate is for change. Canadians believe that the Liberals were discredited, and they were right.

I say for the record that no matter how poor the policies of the Progressive Conservatives—and we are learning quickly how poor they are—the country is better off with a change of any kind than if the Liberals stayed in power. The Conservatives may last for only one term. The powerful mandate they have now will disappear as quickly as it was created for them if they carry out policies of selling the birthright of this country and allowing major Canadian corporations to pass into foreign hands. That is just paper shuffling. That is not going to be the creation of new jobs. We have to look at policies for entrepreneurship. We have to look for the development of small industries. We have to find ways by which industry and jobs can be created in the remote regions of Canada, not just in areas like Ottawa, Toronto, Edmonton and Calgary. We have to look for a whole range of policies, as did our task force on jobs, which was headed by my colleagues, the Hon. Member for Kamloops-Shuswap (Mr. Riis) and the Hon. Member for Essex Windsor. We have to do all these positive things. A policy of simply saying, “Lie on your back and take what happens to you, we are going to open the doors to

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business and any business that wants to take over any industry in this country is welcome to do it regardless of the consequences for Canada” is not right. I say we can do better than that, Mr. Speaker.

● (1620)

A policy of unlimited access to foreign ownership which will be the effect of the policy advanced by the Minister for Regional Industrial Expansion and all of the Government is a policy of Conservative sell-out, a policy of despair, a policy that will not build industry, create jobs and bring down unemployment but a policy which will leave us hewers of wood and drawers of water. I believe our country can do better than that.

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## PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 45, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: The Hon. Member for Cape Breton-East Richmond (Mr. Dingwall)—Unemployment Insurance—Impact of changes. (b) Request for freeze on implementation of changes; The Hon. Member for Winnipeg North (Mr. Orlikow)—Regional Economic Expansion—Financial institutions—forthcoming White Paper. (b) New Democratic Party proposals; the Hon. Member for Scarborough West (Mr. Stackhouse)—External Aid—Sudan—Food crisis—Canadian assistance.

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## GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

### BUSINESS OF SUPPLY

ALLOTTED DAY, S.O. 62—FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT—TIME ALLOCATION

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Axworthy:

That this House condemns the Government, not only for its failure to protect Canada from potential problems of foreign direct investment as demonstrated by the Government's failure to take effective action in dealing with foreign take-overs in the cases of Mitel and of the book-publishing industry, but also for its contempt for the Parliamentary process by cutting off free debate on its iniquitous investment legislation without providing adequate time for consideration of dozens of important and constructive amendments.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Are there questions or comments?