

Certainly the people of Hamilton and the people of Canada, when they awarded a massive majority to the Conservative Government of Canada, expected a little more. They expected some job guarantees. They expected the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) to deliver on his promises. I might add, Mr. Speaker, that if he did deliver on a promise, it would be a first for this Prime Minister. The people expected him to deliver on his promise to create tens of thousands of jobs the moment he was elected. Instead of creating jobs, his Government has actually put at peril thousands of jobs not only in the City of Hamilton but across this great country.

The other morning I had an opportunity to speak to the workers at Susan Shoe Industries Ltd. in the great riding of Hamilton East. Those workers are concerned and frightened. They stand to lose up to 400 jobs because of the Government's refusal to provide the kind of job guarantees of which the Prime Minister spoke so eloquently during the dark days of July and August. Those dark days have clearly shown the Canadian people that the Tories are not interested in helping Hamilton. The Tories are not interested in job creation whether it be at the federal or provincial level. The Tories are only interested in awarding jobs to friends, family members and brothers-in-law.

The feeling on the streets about this Government is not a very good one. People from Hamilton, Toronto and northern Ontario are asking questions. They are asking why the Government will not live up to the kind of expectations it instilled in the Canadian people and why it has determined that its first act as a Government will be to gut the very instrument of job creation that was instituted under the former Liberal Government, the Foreign Investment Review Agency.

Canadians realize that in return for investment, we must have a guarantee of Canadian jobs. The labour movement speaks very eloquently to the issue of job security at this point in time. We are no longer talking dollar increases. We are talking about the 60-plus per cent of Canadians who fear for their jobs or the jobs of family members. Canadians from coast to coast are calling on the Government to provide those kinds of guarantees rather than to introduce legislation which will gut any guarantees we had previously instituted in the form of the Foreign Investment Review Agency.

I doubt we will hear very much from government Members. They have been exceedingly silent on this issue. I hope Hon. Members from Quebec will take heed of what the Bronfman brothers had to say on this particular issue. I do not think the Bronfman brothers are crying in the dark when blaming the Government for the potential loss of thousands of jobs in the distilling industry if there is an American take-over. I do not think they are speaking lightly. I think they are speaking on behalf of all Canadians who are beginning to recognize that the cosy relationship, the open-door policy and the up-for-sale attitude of the Prime Minister is not reflected by the Canadian people. In fact, quite the contrary.

The Canadian people are prepared to compete. In the steel industry, we have competed with the best. We have shown the world how to create the best product possible. What has been

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the response? The response has been U.S. protectionism. The Government of Canada cannot convince the U.S. Congress to lift the provisions that were instituted under the labelling provisions passed by the U.S. Congress recently. The Prime Minister made a promise. He wrote a letter to the people of the riding of Hamilton East indicating that once he was elected Prime Minister, he would immediately solve the steel labelling problem. Yet we have seen that the Prime Minister has not delivered on this promise, as he has not delivered on hundreds of other promises.

There is an issue of credibility at stake. We cannot look at the credibility of the federal Government without looking at the credibility of the Ontario Government. It is very hard to ascertain the credibility of the Premier of Ontario because he cannot get out of the Prime Minister's lap long enough to make a statement or engage in a debate. This issue goes beyond Party boundaries. It is an issue of job security which touches every Canadian.

● (1520)

I would encourage every Hon. Member of this House to speak out in support of the amendment of the Hon. Member for Winnipeg-Fort Garry (Mr. Axworthy) which will in fact ensure that the kind of provisions which were instituted under the Foreign Investment Review Agency, through the leadership of the Hon. Member for Windsor West (Mr. Gray) under the former Liberal Government, are not "gutted", in the words of the Bronfman spokesman, because of actions of this Government not only to open the doors but to put Canada up for sale. I don't think Canadians want to sell our water, Mr. Speaker, but this Government is selling us out.

**Mr. Russell MacLellan (Cape Breton-The Sydneys):** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have another opportunity to speak against this Investment Canada Bill. I think the most dangerous thing about this Government is that it refuses to recognize what is becoming very obvious, that is, that this Bill not only will have no beneficial impact on the economy of this country, but it will be a deterrent to investment. I find completely repugnant the attitude of this Government that there is something wrong about giving an incentive, an edge, to Canadians to invest and share in the benefits of their own country. We should not have to apologize to the rest of the world for wanting to put Canadian interests first and foremost in our own economy. It is becoming more and more evident that we are slipping more and more into the hands of foreign economic interests. The most important aspects of our economy are not going to be safeguarded. To the contrary, the safeguards which we have are going to disappear.

This Government has indicated that it wants foreign investment. There is nothing wrong with foreign investment. But to open the doors completely with absolutely no check on foreign investment is going to be the ruination of our economy and the principles which we want to follow in this country.

The Government says that foreign investment will create regional development, that we will develop in the areas which are undergoing regional disparity. Nothing could be further