

Time Allocation

Canada so we need a mechanism that we can use, as eastern Canadians, to gain our share of world markets for the products we produce. Surely the Members of the Opposition would not begrudge us that opportunity.

I want to point out again that under this legislation there is no way Canagrex can get involved with any product that comes under the jurisdiction of the Canadian Wheat Board or the Canadian Dairy Commission. I cannot understand what all the fuss is about. Let us get on, pass the motion, debate the Bill and finally pass it.

Mr. Friesen: On a point of Order, Mr. Speaker, I would just like to point out that if it was not for the attendance of the Opposition, we could call for a quorum.

Mr. Mazankowski: That shows how much interest they have.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 40, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the Hon. Member for Surrey-White Rock-North Delta (Mr. Friesen)—Emergency Measures—Government plans. (b) Role of Provinces; the Hon. Member for Halifax West (Mr. Crosby)—Energy—Cost compensation requested for home owners in Nova Scotia. (b) Equalization of Energy Costs; the Hon. Member for Bow River (Mr. Taylor—National Parks—Banff land exchange—role of Chamber of Commerce. (b) Reason for requesting delay in development project. (c) Request that bulldozers be removed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

ALLOCATION OF TIME TO CONSIDER REPORT STAGE AND THIRD READING OF BILL C-85

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Whelan that:

That, in relation to Bill C-85, an Act to establish a corporation called Canagrex to promote, facilitate and engage in the export of agricultural and food products from Canada, one sitting day shall be allotted to the consideration of each of the report stage and the third reading stage of the Bill; and

That fifteen minutes before the expiry of the time provided for Government business on those days, any proceedings before the House shall be interrupted, if required, for the purpose of this Order and, in turn, every question then necessary

in order to dispose of the stage of the Bill then under consideration shall be put forthwith and successively without further debate or amendment.

Mr. Len Gustafson (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, I appreciate this privilege of being able to speak on this Bill which was brought in by the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Whelan) to move closure on one of the most important issues—

Mr. Whelan: Time Allocation.

Mr. Gustafson:—ever facing this House of Commons. That is because now a move to control the food industry in Canada follows the precedent set in this House during the national energy policy debate.

The urgency of bringing in closure, and the methods that have been used by the Minister of Agriculture, I am sure he will live to regret some day.

If you follow closely the parallel that has been used, first under the national energy policy where the Minister of Energy moved to control energy, not only in Canada but particularly in western Canada, which is so important to the farmers—

Mr. Whelan: He is talking about oil.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Again I must call the attention of the Hon. Member to the subject matter.

Mr. Gustafson: Mr. Speaker, I was trying to show the relevance of the closure that was used in this case to the methods used under the national energy policy. As we all know, energy and food are of the utmost importance, and closure used in this case will assist in the control of a very, very important industry in the farming community.

The Minister knows that many of the farm groups are opposed to this. I have a list of some 25 groups that I would like to put on record as opposing this move of the Minister on Canagrex. They are the Consumers' Association of Canada; the Alberta-Canada All Breeds Association; Alberta Cattle Commission; British Columbia Cattlemen's Association; Canadian Cattlemen's Association; Canadian Export Association; Canadian Meat Council; Canadian Seed Trade Association; Flax Growers Western Canada; Manitoba Canola Growers Association; Manitoba Cattle Producers' Association; Palliser Wheat Growers Association; Saskatchewan Canola Growers' Association; Saskatchewan Stockgrowers' Association; Western Barley Growers' Association; Western Stockgrowers' Association; The Shipper and Exporters Association. This list points out:

The latter group includes the three Prairie wheat pools and United Grain Growers who, combined, represent hundreds of thousands of Canadian producers.

And the Minister of Agriculture rises in the House and brings in closure to force upon the farmers of Canada and the groups of people represented here, in a non-democratic way, control of food products in Canada.

Mr. Whelan: Time allocation.