

dollars, and oblige the provinces to use their own taxation powers to compensate for foregone revenue so they can continue to provide health care services and finance post-secondary education.

This is not the only case where the provinces were taken by surprise, where in fact they were held hostages in a situation which is altogether unacceptable. Who can forget the promises of this Government — and my colleagues have already mentioned this — to provide direct assistance to pork producers, not to mention the sheep industry. Seeing the Hon. Member for Lotbinière (Mr. Tremblay) reminds me of the Government promise to carry out a major project in his riding, but unfortunately he has not said a word about it since his election, and I am referring to the proposed phyto-protection laboratory in Victoriaville. There again they cut off \$12 million without batting an eye.

Mr. Tremblay (Lotbinière): Mind your own business!

Mr. Tardif (Richmond—Wolfe): Another thing to keep in mind is what happened in the case of the sugar beet industry—

Mr. Tremblay (Lotbinière): Mind your own business! You can't even look after your own riding.

Mr. Tardif (Richmond—Wolfe): Mr. Speaker, referring to stabilization—

Mr. Tremblay (Lotbinière): What a foul mouth!

Mr. Tardif (Richmond—Wolfe): You should be as aggressive in the House of Commons as you were with your association president! It might do wonders for the economy of your riding!

Mr. Speaker, I have here a table which shows in mathematical and monetary terms the impact this—

Mr. Tremblay (Lotbinière): Dirty mouth! Brush your moustache and learn how to articulate!

Mr. Tardif (Richmond—Wolfe): —legislative measure would have in the Province of Quebec. I might point out that in 1986-87—

Mr. Tremblay (Lotbinière): Sit down, foul mouth!

Mr. Tardif (Richmond—Wolfe): Because of the distance between the Hon. Member from Lotbinière (Mr. Tremblay) and me, Mr. Speaker, I feel quite secure. He could not reach me with his fist. But I realize that if I were closer, he might probably blow his top as he did once before.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Could we agree to return to the debate on Bill C-96? I should appreciate if Hon. Members on both sides ... The Hon. Member for Richmond-Wolfe (Mr. Tardif) has the floor.

Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements Act

Mr. Tardif (Richmond—Wolfe): As I was saying, Mr. Speaker, the Bill before us will make sure that in 1986-87, Quebec—

Mr. Tremblay (Lotbinière): You do not know what you are talking about, Tardif!

Mr. Tardif (Richmond—Wolfe): —will lose \$82.3 million. If it continues like this, by 1991-92, the Quebec Government, already faced with a difficult situation due to a major deficit, and in great need of its equalization payments to insure often essential and vital services, stands to lose as much as \$2.083 billion. And that is the measure which the Hon. Member for Lotbinière (Mr. Tremblay) and his Quebec colleagues are willing to support, by keeping absolutely quiet, because they do not have enough courage to denounce it.

• (1710)

Mr. Speaker, there is also—

It would have been a lot wiser to speak out with your voice rather than with your fists, Sir. It would have been much more profitable for your political career!

Mr. Malépart: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Member for Montreal—Sainte-Marie (Mr. Malépart) rises on a point of order.

Mr. Malépart: Mr. Speaker, could you advise my honourable friend that he should mind what he says. I remind him that he is not in his office riding where once he could punch on the nose the chairman of his own county association.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I call both Hon. Members to order. Could we please let the Hon. Member for Richmond—Wolfe (Mr. Tardif) continue?

Mr. Tardif (Richmond—Wolfe): Mr. Speaker, I would also like to bring to the attention of the House a statement made by the Quebec Minister of Agriculture, in which he stated that the Conservative group of Members who are representing, or have a mandate to represent, the interests of Quebec, had an obligation to react to the latest decision providing help to the Maritime potato growers while those in Quebec were totally ignored. Again, this is a shameful injustice which, unfortunately, not a single Member from Quebec raised or defended—

Mr. Speaker, in the budget brought down by the provincial Government last week, taxation measures had to be introduced unexpectedly to compensate for what the Province of Quebec would lose on equalization payments.

Mr. Speaker, it is my view that this measure, like many others, is a very clear example and a most obvious proof that this Government is much more concerned, much more ready to help multinational corporations, large banks, big corporations than small and average taxpayers. The legislation now before us, Bill C-96, is concrete evidence of this Tory Government's