

area the program's net benefit to the industry is something around \$80 million, while actual costs and losses are estimated, if only half of the industry is lost, at \$154 million. It is clear that that program will be inadequate.

The same types of problems are heard in B.C. regarding an industry being sold out by a Prime Minister who is totally committed to making a deal at any cost. That seems to be the hallmark of the Prime Minister. He sets out to make a deal, he makes a deal at any cost, and then gets busy spending taxpayers' money to try to sell the deal after he has made a bad deal. That industry is left with loss of markets, reduced income, and in serious difficulty. The alternatives are very few. For example, the fruit and vegetable industry, which is almost in as rough a shape as the grape industry as a result of the free trade deal, is not a viable alternative.

The key move in the fruit and vegetable industry is the removal of the tariff over a ten-year period. More important than that is the removal of the seasonal tariff of approximately 12 per cent that comes on during the peak season for fresh fruits and vegetables. That tariff has been changed to something called the snap-back provision. If the industry can show a loss of price of 90 per cent over a five-day period, giving a couple of days more for implementation, the seasonal tariff which runs down over a ten-year period can be snapped back to position.

It does not take much imagination for a person who shops at the grocery store to know that, if the price breaks on fresh fruits and vegetables over even a 48-hour period, it cannot be snapped back with a seasonal tariff or anything else. If the price breaks, the price is gone. Certainly, it is gone after seven days.

Last March I had the opportunity to attend a horticultural meeting in Ottawa. I heard nothing but doom and gloom. The industry is constantly hit by the difficulties of the competition with American imports which come in earlier in the season and have a devastating impact on price because they hit the market three or four weeks sooner. In this legislation we would like to see action taken at the committee stage to put in place amendments which would overcome those difficulties, if we find that the snap-back provision does not work. We do not believe that it will. I do not know of anyone in the industry who believes that it will work effectively.

I was hoping that the Deputy Prime Minister would get to the section in his speech where he is going to tell us about the benefits of free trade for western Canada.

Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement

All he was able to quote from was the Western Economic Opportunities Conference of a few years ago. I would like to quote from a statement made by the Advisory Board to the Canadian Wheat Board. The Advisory Board to the Canadian Wheat Board is very concerned about the free trade deal. It is concerned that, in the long haul, the Americans are bound, bent, and determined, as soon as this Bill is passed by Parliament, to destroy the Canadian Wheat Board. If they do that, they will do it to the Ontario Wheat Marketing Board and to all the wheat marketing boards in eastern Canada.

The industry has lost some \$280 million right off the top on the two-price wheat system. In statements made by the American administration it is obvious that it is determined to reveal the selling price by the Canadian Wheat Board. It is setting in place an investigation of the Canadian Wheat Board with the idea of destroying it. It is interesting to reflect upon what the Advisory Board to the Canadian Wheat Board had to say. This board is made up of a group of farmers who are not Tories, Liberals, or New Democrats. They are people elected from the various Wheat Board areas throughout Canada to advise the Canadian Wheat Board. The following is a resolution that they passed at a meeting on July 28, 1988. The resolution states, in part:

After careful review of the proposed Bilateral Canada-U.S. Trade Agreement including Chapter 7 of the United States Statement of Administration Action, The Canadian Wheat Board Advisory Committee considers the proposed Free Trade Agreement will:

1. undermine the ability of The Canadian Wheat Board to be an effective marketing agent on behalf of Canadian grain producers.
2. create an environment in which it will be increasingly difficult to maintain the quality and uniformity of Canadian grains.
3. not provide enhanced and secure access to the U.S. market.

I did not hear the Deputy Prime Minister talk about that resolution, Mr. Speaker, a resolution passed by the Canadian Wheat Board Advisory Committee. But clearly that body is not happy with this agreement.

● (1540)

Mr. Simon Reisman, that great negotiator, said that we Canadians showed the Americans how to negotiate. He said that the Americans negotiated like a Third World country. Yet, just look at the deal that he struck in respect of Canadian oil-seeds and canola going to the Pacific northwest markets. Under that deal, a tariff of 7 per cent is removed over a 10-year period, with the western grains transportation assistance removed immediately. As a result, canola and canola meal are cut out of the Pacific northwest market.