

Interim Supply

Let us look at some of the evidence given to the joint committee on consumer costs recently. I take issue with some of it. Some of it is not true. Statistics prove it is not true, in spite of the deputy minister's statement that the prices paid Canadian farmers for produce rose only 6.6 per cent from 1949 to 1965. He refers to prices paid for Canadian produce. He does not say milk products. He has taken all the farm prices lumped together to confuse the issue. Now, we must be fair and I am sure the house wants to be fair. Let us look at the facts. From 1949 to 1965, farm cash receipts from dairy products increased 52.5 per cent and the dairy products retail price index increased 26.9 per cent. This is a lot different from what was portrayed to the joint committee on consumer credit and costs.

To sum up this matter, I submit that the small independent Canadian milk processor is in a very serious situation, as are the independent condensories, the creameries—both co-operative and independent—and all the cheese factories. The farmer-producer was in a serious situation, and in need of relief. He got relief. But what good will this be to him if his processor, the powdered milk plant, the condensory, the creamery, or the cheese factory goes out of business? These manufacturers I am talking about are in an untenable position.

All their costs of production have increased. They are now the ones who are caught in a newly-created cost-price squeeze. The plant I mentioned as an example bought 32 million pounds of milk in my constituency last year. We do not want to lose this industry and we must not lose this industry. I understand that processors in the United States have a problem because there is an over-all shortage of dairy products in that country. I suggest that this government now negotiate more exports of our Canadian dairy products to the United States of America. I point out to the government the ridiculously low Canadian quota of cheddar cheese allowable in exports to United States—600,000 pounds—compared to the millions of pounds of United States cheese and cheese specialty products permitted importation into Canada. I hope, for the sake of our staggering milk processing industry, that this government will make a deal far better for the country than their recent car deal. I believe that the United States might be receptive to such a suggestion since they are so short of many dairy products. Something must be done, and done soon. I hope the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Trade and Commerce will look into this problem.

[Mr. Alkenbrack.]

I referred to Canadian independent companies and co-operatives who are in such danger at this time.

The Chairman: Order, please. I must interrupt the hon. member and advise the house that it is six o'clock. In order that the house may proceed to the consideration of private members' business, it is my duty to leave the chair.

Mr. Alkenbrack: May I call it six o'clock, Mr. Chairman.

**PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT
MOTION**

**SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTION
TO BE DEBATED**

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It is my duty, pursuant to provisional standing order 39A, to inform the house that the question is as follows; the hon. member for Argenteuil-Deux-Montagnes, (Mr. Régimbal) Expo '67—Montreal—tourist accommodation.

It being six o'clock, the house will now proceed to the consideration of private members' business as listed on today's order paper, namely, private bills, notices of motion (papers) and public bills.

● (6:00 p.m.)

Mr. Pennell: As the journey of interim supply through the house is not proceeding very quickly, I wonder whether hon. members would be prepared to dispense with the private members' hour.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Does the house agree to dispense with the private members' hour?

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: There is no consent.

Mr. Peters: Will the house be adjourning for supper for the next hour?

Some hon. Members: Adjourn.

Mr. Peters: On a point of order, will the Chair ask hon. members whether they are prepared to adjourn for a supper hour this evening?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Does the house give consent to adjourning the sitting for one hour?

Some hon. Members: No.