

*Farm Products Marketing Agencies Bill*

This is basically what I sought through amendment No. 14, and basically this is what the hon. member for Richmond seeks now. He recognizes that the poultry industry is in a very vulnerable position in the sense that the slightest influx of eggs or poultry from outside the country would upset things greatly. This is why the minister acted four months ago with respect to the importation of eggs, and why we have a tariff on broiler chickens coming into Canada of something like 5½ cents to 6 cents a pound.

Under the present bill, supply management applies solely to the poultry industry, and I wholeheartedly support the suggestion put forward in the amendment moved by the hon. member for Richmond. We must give the council set up under this bill power to inquire into the importation of poultry products to Canada and the effect which such importation has on the concept of supply management.

I defy anyone in this chamber to quote any professor, economist or other authority who says supply management will work in any country or any region of a country without due regard being paid to the effect of imports. Anybody who knows anything about this subject knows it is an economic truth that supply management will not work unless due consideration is given to the effect of imports. Take the example of hog production. I know I am getting away from the poultry industry, but the hon. member for Fraser Valley West (Mr. Rose) made some caustic remarks about my attitude to the hog industry and said I had not spoken once about it tonight. He also made some very derogatory remarks about the cattle industry and how it had lobbied with some irregularity—

**Mr. Howard (Skeena):** Unethical.

**Mr. Horner:**—irregular manner. This is certainly false. He also said that I had not spoken—

**Mr. Rose:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, my name is being bandied about by the hon. member for Crowfoot (Mr. Horner) and I would like to assist him since he seems to have difficulty in pronouncing “irregularity” or “irregular.” What I actually said was that I felt pressures by the large cattle interests were unethical.

**Mr. Horner:** I always appreciate such assistance. The hon. member and I worked closely in the committee and I have no trouble recalling his exact words about the unethical manner adopted by some cattlemen. After he made that remark I went to see him behind the curtains, to see if he really meant it. I asked him what he meant and he replied, “Oh, those newspaper ads!” I asked him, “Did the cattlemen publish those newspaper ads?” He replied, “I don’t know whether they did or not, I think they did.” I do not have absolute knowledge of how those ads got into the papers, but I do know more about them than the hon. member for Fraser Valley West. I assure you, Mr. Speaker, that there were hog men who paid for those ads, and poultry men, and there might have been a few cattlemen. Why accuse only the cattlemen of being unethical? I think he is prejudiced against them, and his prejudices are showing this evening.

• (5:40 a.m.)

Let us suppose that supply management could raise the price of pork in Canada today. In 1970 we provided 19 per

cent of the pork imported by the United States, but 35 per cent of their imports come from Denmark. If we increase our price we only create a bigger market for the Danish pork farmers. This is the retrograde step that supply management will effect unless we control our borders.

**Mr. Speaker,** I know the hour is late.

**An hon. Member:** It is early—early in the morning.

**Mr. Horner:** I should like to tell hon. members that I have to catch a plane at 7.50 a.m. so I will not be speaking much longer. Mr. Speaker, supply management is wrong and it cannot work unless we pay close attention to imports. We are only fooling ourselves and the poultry industry if we pass this bill without referring it back to committee. I would hope that the committee would implement a section in the bill similar to clause 9 of Bill C-215, the textile bill. These products share a vulnerability with regard to imports.

In spite of the desires of the hon. member for Fraser Valley East (Mr. Pringle), this bill will not serve any useful purpose for the poultry industry if they disregard the effects of imports. This government pretends to pay attention to agriculture but has not solved any of its problems. I hope that some government in Canada, some day will put its mind to solving these problems.

Unless the government accepts the suggestion of the hon. member for Richmond this bill is only window dressing. Part of my riding is in Calgary and I do not neglect that part, but I still care, perhaps too much for this modern society, about agriculture. This bill does not solve any problems but just touches upon them superficially. For these reasons I shall gladly vote against the bill because it is not an answer; it is merely a cover-up by this government for its neglect since it has taken office.

**Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni):** Mr. Speaker, at various points in the progress of this bill through the House my colleagues have tried to get me to participate in the debate. Now that we are apparently prepared to see the old year out and the new year in with the continuous companionship we have had in this House, I suppose I might be permitted to say a few words. I might discuss the oyster farmers in my constituency or the three farmers who were brought into the debate a while ago, but I shall try to confine my remarks to the amendment before us. I am not going to attempt to compete with the thunderous oratory of the hon. member for Crowfoot (Mr. Horner) or the frenzied hysteria of the hon. member for Mackenzie (Mr. Korchinski).

**An hon. Member:** Give us your own brand of nonsense.

**Mr. Barnett:** I have agricultural producers in my constituency and so I try to maintain some acquaintance with the progress of agricultural legislation through the House. I support the principle of the amendment before us and I agree with the hon. member for Crowfoot that the considerations involved in this amendment are vital to the success of a national marketing scheme of any kind in this country. Sooner or later the principle will have to be incorporated in the operation of farm marketing in Canada if the claims made for the approach in this bill by the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Olson) are to bear fruit.