

that our market-sharing quotas will be maintained. The dairy farmers, the poultry farmers and egg producers want that commitment. Nothing less than that personal assurance from the Prime Minister, who I thought would have been replying to this question personally, is acceptable.

Mr. G. M. Gurbin (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, I believe there are two issues contained in the Hon. Member's question. With respect to the first issue, I can only comment that the Government took the advice of a Liberal-appointed tribunal. Perhaps such appointments are not always the best, but the Government accepted that assessment of the shoe industry and took what action made sense. I do not know if the Hon. Member is mixing up shoes and milk, but it is somewhat like comparing apples and oranges.

Mr. Boudria: Read the question.

Mr. Gurbin: When the Hon. Member talks about agriculture, I believe there are a couple of issues that he does not want to address or does not want to know. I would wager that there are some facts that he does not even tell his farmers. For instance, in 1984 there were \$2.3 billion worth of agricultural exports to the United States. I wonder if there are any hog farmers in his riding?

Mr. Boudria: Yes.

Mr. Gurbin: They probably know what happened.

Mr. Boudria: I have hundreds of them.

Mr. Gurbin: That is good. They know what happened when protectionist sentiments arose in the United States and tariffs were implemented. The industry was threatened and the price of hogs went down.

Many other agricultural products, including potatoes, have been affected by those protectionist sentiments in the United States. There are 300 protectionist measures currently in the

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United States which could affect a wide range of products in Canada, many of which are agricultural products.

The Government is looking to secure approved access for Canadian agriculture. Throughout these free-trade discussions we will in fact be talking and dealing closely with all sectors of Canadian agriculture. We will do our best to get a good deal for all Canadian agriculture. We will not sign an agreement that is not a good deal for Canada.

On September 26 the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) proposed that Canada and the United States pursue bilateral free trade talks. The Government's aim in pursuing discussions with the United States was to secure and enhance Canadian access to what is by far our largest export market and provide a predictable trading environment with a better set of rules. This is welcomed by the United States.

● (1915)

At this point in time, these agricultural issues, or any number of other issues, are part of our discussions. We will not go in there with a set position on any number of issues, quite simply because that is not the way in which to negotiate. If the Hon. Member does his reading, he will know that yesterday a farm Bill was passed through Congress. The United States has a number of farm policies and measures in which it has just as much at stake as we have in ours. The Hon. Member also knows that the Conservative Party has always supported market supply management systems in agriculture when producers wanted them.

[*Translation*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest): The motion to adjourn the House is now deemed to have been adopted. Accordingly, this House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 11 a.m., pursuant to Standing Order 31.

The House adjourned at 7.16 p.m.