

Canagrex

the board are not paid. They are in limbo. It does not cost anything to leave the paper sitting on the shelf. I do not think we are using the time of the House wisely or well by spending the onset of agri-food week by killing what could have been a very useful organization, just as the Avro Arrow could have been as very useful bit of technology for Canada. We have chosen to close our eyes to the future. We have once again, unfortunately, decided to cut ourselves off from potential markets in other parts of the world and to look instead within our own provincial borders where there is no solution to be found.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[Translation]

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 66, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the Hon. Member for York East (Mr. Redway)—Pensions—Homemakers' pension inquiry; the Hon. Member for Winnipeg North (Mr. Orlikow)—Science and technology—(a) National Research Council's budget (b) Number of Council's employees; the Hon. Member for York West (Mr. Marchi)—Multiculturalism—(a) Funding of Toronto organizations (b) Government policy.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[Translation]

CANAGREX DISSOLUTION ACT

MEASURE TO ENACT

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Wise that Bill C-2, an Act to dissolve Canagrex and to amend certain Acts in consequence thereof, be read the second time and referred to a legislative committee.

Mr. Charles Hamelin (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, by moving second reading of Bill C-2 on the dissolution of Canagrex, the Government fully acknowledges the efforts made by Government departments and agencies, both provincial and federal, and by the private sector to promote the exportation of Canadian products. In fact these departments and agencies have taken over the goals set for Canagrex and are well on their way to concluding several export projects.

Since we are implementing the Budget cut-backs made imperative by the financial mess left by our predecessors, it is appropriate to point out that the Government is ever more intent on reducing the duplication of services while at the same time offering quality service to producers interested in agricultural exports. It can achieve this—and it is the only way

given the current situation—by altering and strengthening existing Government structures and programs.

Mrs. Speaker, whether we are talking about the Agricultural Products Board, the Department of External Affairs, the Export Development Corporation or Agriculture Canada itself, each agency and department specializes in one particular aspect of agricultural trade.

Trade is a complex area that requires close co-operation between the agencies and departments concerned and, of course, the private sector. In preparing trade transactions, it is very important to have information sessions with the private sector, followed by seminars in countries seen as potential markets.

This month, for instance, a delegation from Agriculture Canada, accompanied by experts from the private sector and the provincial governments, will go to the People's Republic of China. It will also travel to Spain and Portugal, to offer seminars on Canadian dairy cattle. These seminars are aimed at giving prospective buyers the benefit of the knowledge and, especially, the experience of our Canadian producers. The ultimate goal is to conquer new markets.

For instance, for more than two years Canadian pork has been actively promoted in Japan. Nearly 1,000 stores are selling our pork products today. Furthermore, a dozen Japanese trade missions have been invited to Canada since last fall to take a closer look at our pork production. We hope they will only examine the quality of our products and not succeed in imitating our truly exceptional production methods.

I represent a riding which, though not exclusively agricultural, does have a flourishing pork producing sector. For instance we know that we now have surplus production in Quebec precisely because of the quality and the sustained efforts made by our producers to market first rate products and boost productivity in the farming community.

Still on the international scene, in Algeria, we plan to promote the sale of seed potatoes, and eventually we will look for new markets. I repeat that even though I represent a North Shore riding where potatoes are not produced in significant quantities I am pleased to point out that we have one of Canada's leading potato research centres, certainly the best in the province. Climate considerations are of course the reason why colder regions such as mine are selected to avoid seed corruption, away from the pollution of major urban centres and possible contamination, and to carry out research on and produce top quality potatoes. For over ten years now this research has turned eastern Canada into a prime quality potato producer, where new products and better quality seed have been discovered. This is happening in Pointe-aux-Outardes, a small municipality near Baie-Comeau. People are really surprised when they hear that we have such a research center on the North Shore, but it is because of our climate, and we have a good personnel and outstanding researchers. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all the men