

# HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, June 27, 1989

The House met at 2 p.m.

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*Prayers*

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## STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S. O. 31

[*English*]

### DAIRY INDUSTRY

#### IMPACT OF NEW GOVERNMENT POLICIES

**Mrs. Christine Stewart (Northumberland):** Mr. Speaker, in recent meetings with dairy farmers from my riding of Northumberland, they have conveyed to me a desperation concerning their ability to survive the Government's new policies.

The recent freezing of industrial milk prices for the next 20 months, along with the budget cuts of \$14 million a year from dairy spending, including the dropping of federal export subsidies and the cutting of funding for the Canadian Dairy Commission, all point to the fact that the Government is not interested in preserving the Canadian dairy industry.

Dairy farmers in my riding and across Canada want to know why they are being singled out for income freezes which will not allow their incomes to rise by as little as the rate of inflation.

I urge the Minister of Agriculture to reconsider his destructive policies which are contrary to the Government's own long-term dairy policy that included a complete commitment to supply management. The family farm dairy industry must be maintained.

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### DAIRY INDUSTRY

#### NATIONAL MILK MARKETING SYSTEM

**Mr. Lyle Dean MacWilliam (Okanagan—Shuswap):** Mr. Speaker, the Government of British Columbia has publicly threatened to withdraw from the national milk

marketing system. This has caused great concern to the province's 1,000 dairy producers, the majority of whom support the national milk marketing program.

One of the reasons for opting out is that the present distribution of the national market sharing quota or MSQ is completely unfair. British Columbia, with 12 per cent of Canada's population, has only 3.6 per cent of the national quota. Quebec, with 26 per cent of Canada's population, has 47 per cent, while Ontario and Quebec combined hold 78 per cent of the total national milk quota. This is a discriminatory allocation and must be rectified.

B.C. must stay within the national milk marketing system to protect the B.C. Dairymen's Association and to ensure the economic stability of the B.C. dairy industry. The only way to accomplish this is to adjust immediately the milk quota plan and give British Columbia its fair share.

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[*Translation*]

### SPORT

#### THE IMPORTANCE OF MAJOR JUNIOR HOCKEY

**Mr. Guy St-Julien (Abitibi):** Mr. Speaker, If the Québec Major Junior Hockey League is important to the central regions, it is also important to the remote regions. The Western Hockey League in Canada covers four provinces and a number of American states. The Ontario Hockey League covers a large territory.

However, in Québec the situation is different. The Québec Major Hockey League is based almost exclusively in the central regions, with the exception of Chicoutimi.

Abitibi and Témiscamingue contribute to the economy of Québec's central regions. Our ore and wood chips are processed in Montreal and Trois-Rivières.

Mr. Speaker, the Québec Government should apply the principles of Canada-Québec agreements on economic development to junior hockey and consider allow-