

### *Supply*

This is more than just a discussion about a group of bureaucrats in Geneva arguing about the text of a 427-page document called the Dunkel report. It is about thousands and thousands of Canadian farm families who are scared to death that this government is going to sell them out during the final eight weeks of the GATT negotiations, that they are going to end up losing the provisions for import controls, the basic foundations of the supply management system. They are scared stiff that we are going to end up with a dairy and poultry industry in Canada like that in the United States, where most of the eggs are produced in Georgia and Alabama and the poultry products in California. Dairy farmers by the hundreds are going broke day by day.

• (1620)

That is why some 1,400 farmers paraded out of the Sir John Carling building last Friday. That is why some 2,500 farmers paraded before the meeting of the heads of governments on Monday of this week at the Lester B. Pearson building. They are concerned, and that is why there will be something like 22,000 or 25,000 farmers in this city a week from this Friday.

This is of incalculable importance to that industry. We are talking about a \$10 billion industry, 36,000 farms and families, 22,000 employees and a whole dairy and poultry processing industry involving some 95,000 jobs.

This is a very important debate. It is a debate where we are calling on the government to use every diplomatic arrangement it can muster so that the final conclusion, if it is reached at GATT during the next two months, will be a retention of our supply management system.

It is a unique system. It is a system that does not flood the world market. It provides producers with a reasonable return on their investment, and it is a system that we want to keep. It is impossible to describe the adverse impact the report would have. Look at the figures provided this morning by the Canadian Chicken Marketing Agency. It says in three years, if the Dunkel report is adopted, 86 per cent of Canadian producers will be out of business. Out of 2,411 producers only 330 would remain. Within two years the production of chicken would cease in Atlantic Canada.

It is unlikely that any processing plants would survive the first several years. Within six years, which is the end of the Dunkel proposal period wherein tariffs would be

reduced, there would be something like 39 producers left in the country.

The minister talks about providing impact studies. The Canadian Chicken Marketing Agency said that it had asked for them and the government had not provided them.

We are really under the gun as legislators to bring every ounce of energy and pressure to bear to ensure that these vital industries survive. Imagine 95,000 jobs. Imagine Atlantic Canada not producing any poultry products. That is the genius of this system. Areas without large populations and metropolitan areas can continue to have a viable family farm operation.

It would be impossible to exaggerate the importance of what the government must do. There is great concern that the government is saying the right thing but is not doing the right thing. I say to the Prime Minister that he should attend the meeting next Tuesday which has been called at the Skyline Hotel. He should rally the support of the five other nations which support our position, including Japan. He should get a joint statement from heads of government which calls on the other members of the GATT agreement to support our position. We do not want to flood the market. We want to give our producers a reasonable return on their investment. We want to retain the family farm.

After he has secured that joint agreement with the other heads of government that support our position, I say the Prime Minister should sit down with the President of the United States and the President of the European Economic Community and seek their support. After all, those are the two main trading blocs. They should secure a strengthened and clarified article XI in the new GATT agreement that is proposed to be put in place this spring.

So I move, seconded by the hon. member for Gati-neau—La Lievre:

That the amendment be amended by changing the period at the end to a semicolon and by adding the following words:

And that this House call upon the Prime Minister to involve himself personally in the GATT negotiations in the interest of Canada's dairy, egg and poultry producers by meeting with the President of the United States and with the President of the European Community in order to secure their support and to do so in co-operation with other countries that agree with Canada's position on a strengthened and clarified GATT article XI.