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I would like to remind Canadians just how many support programs for agriculture the federal government has removed in a simple budget in 1989: crop insurance, \$200 million; rail branch line rehabilitation program, \$48 million; grain crop advance payments, \$54 million; dairy export, \$12 million, commodity based loans, \$15 million; Canadian Dairy Commission, \$10 million; grain and flour, the at and east legislation, Bill C-26, \$60 million, for a total of \$399 million. In fact, since this government came to power in September, 1984, the family farm in Canada has been under siege.

We have the most efficient producers in the world, but they cannot compete by themselves with the treasuries of the world, especially when the government allows other nations to dump heavily subsidized products such as soya oil on the Canadian market. The products are so cheap, as with soya oil, that they can cross the ocean twice and still be cheaper than the product produced here.

It is time this government presented some concrete plans to deal with this situation. I would specifically request the minister to take action, not just in the situation of the soya oil dumping, but also in other commodities that are being dumped on our market here and we have to compete against their export markets that are financed under the Export Enhancement Program.

**Mr. Murray Cardiff (Parliamentary Secretary to Deputy Prime Minister, President of the Privy Council and Minister of Agriculture):** Madam Speaker, it is almost impossible in the time allotted to reply to the many concerns that the hon. member raised. We were supposed to be talking about soybean oil and the importation of soybean oil.

But the member has touched on at least four or five different topics, such as the Canadian price for wheat, the initial price for wheat and beef, items like that. Those are all concerns of ours.

He also mentioned the cuts in payments to agriculture. I would not say that that is true. There has been a realignment in agriculture spending and we have to look over the last number of years at the amount of money with which this government has supported agriculture,

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the Special Grains Programs, drought assistance, and as recently as this year, the government's special \$500 million program with which we are all familiar.

I do not think it is fair to say that we have abandoned the farmers in any way. We have fully supported farmers. I just wish that we had about half an hour to respond to the questions that the hon. member raised because I am sure we could have quite a good debate in that area.

The question the hon. member does raise about the trade practices of the European Economic Community illustrates an issue which causes a great concern to the government and the Canadian agriculture community. There is no question about that.

The EEC uses its export subsidies more than any other world trader to sell its agricultural commodities. The recent sale of that Spanish soybean oil to a Canadian company that the member spoke about, although not large in the over-all context to our Canadian market, is significant because it has caused concern within the Canadian oilseed industry.

Another important factor is that the 8 per cent tariff barrier imposed by EEC member states expires January 1, 1991. This will increase opportunities for Spain to dispose of surplus soybean oil within the European community.

Madam Speaker, this government is prepared to assist its oilseed producers. The industry stopped the counter-vail action after the importer of the Spanish oil stated publicly that they were unaware of the existence of this subsidy and promised not to make any further purchases of subsidized oil.

In the meantime our concerns were brought to the attention of the EEC and the Spanish authorities through our missions in Europe.

Before closing I want to address as well the question raised regarding the use of pesticides in imported soybean products. Maximum residue tolerances are established under the authority of Canada's Food and Drugs Act. I would like to make it very clear for the public that the same standards are applied to both Canadian and imported produce. However, the health and safety of Canadians is protected by the tolerance provisions of the Food and Drugs Act and through the monitoring by Health and Welfare Canada and Agriculture Canada.