

Some Hon. Members: Question.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Some Hon. Members: No.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): All those in favour of the motion will please say yea?

Some Hon. Members: Yea.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): All those opposed will please say nay.

Some Hon. Members: Nay.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): I declare the motion carried.

Motion No. 2 (Mr. Mayer) agreed to.

Hon. Frank Oberle (for the Minister of State (Grains and Oilseeds)) moved that the Bill be concurred in.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): When shall the Bill be read the third time? By leave, now?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Hon. Frank Oberle (for the Minister of State for Grains and Oilseeds) moved that the Bill be read the third time and passed.

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell): Mr. Speaker, I want to take a few minutes to indicate my Party's support for the technical amendments provided for in Bill C-132. We know, of course, that the Bill provides for the write-down of some \$750 million of the Western Grain Stabilization Fund under the Western Grain Stabilization Act. We know that the provisions of the Bill are to permit and encourage farmers to participate in stabilization and that this would be enhanced if the Bill were passed by July 31. Our Party indicated its usual full co-operation with the Government in assisting the Minister and his Parliamentary Secretary by consenting to immediate third reading debate rather than the customary wait of one day that was imposed. We were glad to participate and to accommodate the Government in that way. We want farmers to be able to participate this year, and that will be possible with the passage of this Bill now.

I just wanted to state as well that we welcome the fact that the Government has this commitment to the Western Grain Stabilization Act. We know that that commitment to the Act

Western Grain Stabilization Act

was not always there on the part of Conservative Members. We remember the fine work that was done in that area by the then Minister, Otto Lang. I want to reiterate the good wishes to Mr. Lang for his fine work and, of course, to the excellent Parliamentary Secretary that he had at the time, Ralph Goodale. Ralph will very shortly be the Premier of the Province of Saskatchewan. We wish him well. I know that all Hon. Members, particularly the Conservative Members who are now such fans of stabilization, will want to pay homage as well to Ralph Goodale. I thought that I would mention that to ensure that all Members of Parliament were aware of the excellent work done in that regard.

[*Translation*]

So, Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my colleagues in the Liberal Party, on behalf of my colleague the Hon. Member for Algoma (Mr. Foster), on behalf of the Hon. Member for Winnipeg—Fort Gary (Mr. Axworthy), I would like to express our consent to this government measure. We are happy to see that the Conservative Government has finally come round to favouring western grain stabilization. This hasn't always been a Conservative policy, as you know, because at a certain moment the extreme right of the Conservative Party had some difficulties with the idea of a stabilization program. It was seen by yesterday's Tories—I say "yesterday's", but some of yesterday's Tories are still with us today, and we call them the dinosaurs—it was seen by yesterday's Tories as some kind of socialist measure. That is not the case. We know this system is good for the agriculture sector, and we also know that governments intervene in agriculture in almost every country in the whole world.

[*English*]

So we know that there is government intervention in agriculture in most countries of the world, and that the Government has a moral duty to assist Canadian agriculture.

The stabilization program is an example of a system which can benefit farmers during particularly bad years—such as the one that the grain sector is going through right now—bad years that are caused in large measure by the war of subsidies between the United States of America and the European Economic Community. Canada is standing in the middle of this war of subsidies and money and is being bombarded on both sides. Our farmers have had a very low return for their crops.

It is interesting to note that the United States—and I have said this previously—chose to adopt the U.S. Farm Bill, the United States Food Security Act 1985, at the same time as it was going through this trade deal between our two countries. In other words, they were negotiating to end subsidies, to end all kinds of trade-distorting measures between the two countries, yet at the same time the Government of the United States was imposing what is by far the most offensive piece of legislation that it could have ever aimed at Canadian agriculture. I suppose it was not directly aimed at Canadian agriculture; it was aimed at European agriculture. When you are