1981 had increased to 18.4 million. In other words, it has gone from 56 per cent to over 75 per cent. That decline will continue and accelerate because of the effect of the clauses on agriculture that are contained in this free trade agreement with the United States.

It is, to say the least, odd that a Party which traditionally had so much support in rural Canada now seems set to abandon the farm community entirely. To back up what I am saying, we need only examine what will happen to rural Canada under the terms of this proposed U.S.-Canada trade pact. Rural Manitoba, an area which the two Ministers from Manitoba who are in the House at the present time know, is represented almost exclusively by Conservative Members of Parliament. I do not believe this situation will happen again after the next election. Here is what will happen to Manitoba farm producers with the cost estimates of the losses which they will suffer as a result of this agreement, as calculated by the Government of Manitoba. I will put those figures on the record. I checked them with a senior professor of economics at the Faculty of Agriculture at the University of Manitoba who agreed with these estimates. The Government of Manitoba has estimated that, because of the increase in the global quotas for imports for supply management products such as chickens, turkeys, and eggs, this will cost Manitoba farmers $9 million. We have heard a great deal of the argument that supply management and marketing boards are not mentioned and are not dealt with in this agreement.

When the tariffs are taken off on processed foods, products such as chicken pot-pies, TV dinners, and chicken fingers, products which are increasing in sales and use very rapidly, of course it will be possible for the American producers of chickens, turkeys, and eggs, who do not benefit from supply management prices for their product, to export into Manitoba and other provinces their processed foods and sell them cheaper than the Canadian producer and processors will be able to.

This agreement provides for a loss of the premium price which has been paid by the Wheat Board for the brewing of malt, barley, and milling oats. According to the Manitoba Government, the loss of this two-price system will cost Manitoba farmers $16 million. The loss of seasonal tariffs for fresh vegetables produced in Manitoba has been estimated to cost farmers of Manitoba $8 million a year.

The loss of the 17 per cent tariff on processed products going into canned goods is estimated at $17 million a year. I am sorry that the Minister of State for Grains and Oilseeds is not present, because the Campbell Soup Co. plant is located in his constituency in Portage La Prairie. Many of the farmers who grow the vegetables that go into those products processed and canned in that plant live and grow their products in the constituency of the Minister of State for Grains and Oilseeds.

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Increased transportation costs of mill feeds going to the United States without the transportation subsidy, which subsidy is given away under the terms of the agreement, will cost Manitoba farmers $1 million. The loss of the two-price wheat for Canadian millers in Manitoba has been estimated to cost $8 million. We have a total of $55 million a year, which will be taken from the rural economy of Manitoba under the terms of the agreement. This is a very small part of the total rural economy of Canada. Apparently the Ontario Government estimated that under the terms of the agreement its farmers will lose $100 million a year.

There has been a great deal of debate in the House on whether or not farm groups support the trade deal. In answering questions today, the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Wise) listed a number of farm organizations which he claimed endorsed the agreement enthusiastically.

I should like to quote from a recent article which appeared in *The Toronto Star* a few days ago. It quoted Jack Penner, President of Keystone Agricultural Producers, which organization initially greeted the agreement enthusiastically. In part the article reads:

> —Jack Penner questions the implications of the deal's provision to allow U.S. farmers to sell grain in Canada as soon as the level of government subsidies is equal in the two countries for each type of grain.
>
> "I think we in the farm community owe it to ourselves to question that one," says Penner. "It might be detrimental to our orderly marketing of grains because individual American producers can access our market virtually unrestrained."

Elmer Platt, a representative of the Manitoba Chicken Broiler Producers Marketing Board, said the following, according to the same article:

> The major concern for poultry producers, and one that spills over to primary (slaughtering) and processing (fast foods), is that under the pact supplemental tariffs—additional quotas— will be easier to get.

He went on to say:

> —we think it is likely that price will dictate. Our industry—could be wiped out.

I would also like to refer to an article which appeared in the October 12 edition of *Financial Times*, which is hardly a radical publication. It refers to Zaven Kurdian, a spokesperson for the Ontario Poultry Council, who noted the following:

> —that McCain Foods Ltd. of Florenceville, N.B., "has been negotiating for a whole year to start such a project (a frozen food plant) in New Brunswick.
>
> With tariffs eliminated there is no way they will proceed."

Brigid Pike, President of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, is quoted as saying the following in the same article:

> "Processing in Niagara will be the first to come under the gun. This will cause a contraction in the entire industry, cutting into economy of scale."

I direct the attention of the Minister of State for Grains and Oilseeds to the *Western Report* of October 19, another journal which is noted for its free market espousal. It quoted Nelson Coyle of the Canadian Chicken Marketing Board who said the following: