

TRADE

PROCESSED FOOD IMPORTS FROM UNITED STATES

Mr. Maurice Foster (Algoma): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister for International Trade. The special advisory group to the Government on international trade for agriculture and food recommended that where imports of processed foods from the United States contain more than 10 per cent of ingredients produced under our supply-management system in Canada, that is, marketing boards, they be placed on the import control list. The free trade deal makes no provision such as that.

Will the Minister go ahead to implement that provision which was recommended by his own advisory group, and which has been recommended by practically all agriculture groups in Canada, even though it is not in the free trade agreement?

Hon. John Wise (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the Hon. Member's question. He will know that there are ongoing discussions between industry people, international trade people, and representatives of Agriculture Canada. We will continue those discussions until we reach an agreement, a mutually agreed upon solution. Of course, we will then implement it.

I remind the Hon. Member that some time ago we had similar ongoing discussions with people in the dairy industry. When we concluded those discussions and reached an agreement we followed through with the commitment we made earlier that we would in fact shift certain commodities from the tariff list to the import-export list. We did that for the dairy industry. I expect that we will be doing the same thing with other industries under supply management.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Churchill on a single question.

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INDIAN AFFAIRS

SASKATCHEWAN AND MANITOBA LAND CLAIMS

Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Indian Affairs. During the state of severe unemployment on Indian reserves in western Canada, and the fact that native people need a secure land base in order to develop their opportunities and get away from the welfare cycle that exists, why has the Minister reneged on the Saskatchewan formula as it applies to the provision of land and entitlement lands to the bands in that province? Why has he reneged on the agreement with the Manitoba chiefs and the Manitoba Government which was initialled by his officials over a year ago which would have provided the land base which those people so badly need?

Point of Order

Hon. Bill McKnight (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, there are two parts to that important question.

The Saskatchewan formula, which has been in effect since 1979, has only seen two transfers of land take place. The entitlement bands in Saskatchewan have changed their decision from that originally of land to land and, in some cases, cash, and to some land which is not rural but urban. To calculate the quantum to those changes, it was necessary to review the policy of the Government of Canada.

The date of first survey is still in place. Without prejudice, the Government of Canada will meet that date of first survey entitlement.

With respect to Manitoba, the Manitoba Government initialled a memorandum among officials that allowed for the Government of Canada to purchase in southern Manitoba all the land necessary for entitlement, completely excluding any responsibility by the Government of Manitoba to provide much needed land to Indian entitlement bands in that province.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. member for Humber—Port au Port—St. Barbe rises on a point of order.

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POINTS OF ORDER

WITHDRAWAL OF UNPARLIAMENTARY WORD

Mr. Brian Tobin (Humber—Port au Port—St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, yesterday in responding to an answer by the Deputy Prime Minister (Mr. Mazankowski) I said: "—that selective quote, I am sure, will be answered by the Hon. Member for Winnipeg—Fort Garry for the deliberate mistruth that it is."

I want to withdraw the word "deliberate". I would not want to suggest that the Deputy Prime Minister, even when he is dealing with faulty information, would deliberately convey that information to the House of Commons.

Mr. Speaker: I appreciate the Hon. Member's gesture without having to be asked. I know that that still leaves a difference of opinion between the Hon. Member and the Hon. Minister.

CORRECTION TO STATEMENT

Miss Aideen Nicholson (Trinity): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. It arises out of a question placed by a Conservative Member to the Minister of State for Finance (Mr. Hockin) concerning Bill C-117.

I am sure the Hon. Member who put the question would not want to mislead the House. He spoke of the Bill being delayed by members of the Opposition. I should point out that the Bill was brought on by the Government for only two days of