

Farm Products Marketing Agencies Bill

will not, because others will crop up. In fact, some powerful organizations will try to monopolize the market, at the expense of others. The federal government will be compelled to intervene under the act. Opposition members, especially those who represent part of an agricultural region in Quebec, and who have no knowledge of the problems of agriculture in their province, will say to the federal government: you are dictatorial, you are preventing the marketing of this or that product. Yet, producers' associations will have requested it.

I do not want to linger on that any further because I hope that at least my sincerity is not questioned. If some hon. members believe that I did not go to Sherbrooke because I was afraid, I will tell them that if I did not show up there it was because I was in the House and that I was trying to solve the famous problem of marketing farm products which does not seem to interest those who went to Sherbrooke.

I was asked to meet farmers in my region. Things did not happen the way they were told. I went to meet them and I shall do that again. I am negotiating on their behalf because they know that I formerly worked the land and earned my living by doing so. They know I represent them properly and that is why the Cr ditistes are unable to get themselves elected in my district. The people there do not believe in "Cr ditisme". They are farmers, ready and able to stand up for themselves and they have no need for promises of pie-in-the-sky at election time or at any other time. However, when it comes to making representations, the farmers' association of the district is neither Grit nor Tory, nor Cr ditiste; they are all in favour of the common welfare of farmers.

That is why I feel quite free to make representations here. My district is not made up exclusively of Liberals. In fact, before 1966 there were not enough people there to elect a Liberal.

Not only the Liberals but everybody is awaiting the passage of this legislation. If my Cr ditiste friends are prepared to vote against this bill, I will take it upon myself, as a service to the farming class, to say that the members of some parties, and more especially those of the Ralliement cr ditiste, are very good at delivering speeches when the farmers are in the galleries and have come here to claim certain rights. Then, they do not blame a political party in particular, but the House itself, and after delivering their speeches, they slip away and are not seen

[Mr. C t  (Richelieu).]

at the hearings of the Committee on Agriculture.

I have been blamed yesterday in connection with the \$1.25 fine. If the hon. member for T miscamingue, who was unsuccessful in having a leader of his choice elected and who tried to give a hand to the other leader of the provincial wing of the Ralliement cr ditiste in the Quebec election last April 29, can prove to me that he could urge the authorities of his province to give a penny for any dairy product whatsoever—

Mr. Latulippe: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

[English]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member wishes to raise a point of order.

[Translation]

Mr. Latulippe: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the hon. member what he is talking about because he claimed a while ago that Cr ditiste members did not explain the bill to their constituents.

I ask the Chair to bring him to order and urge him to explain the bill. If he wants to be understood, he must explain the bill.

[English]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The point of order raised by the hon. member is a perfectly valid one. Perhaps the Chair has been a little too lenient with both sides in this debate. I suggest to the parliamentary secretary that he might refer to the bill which is presently before the House, consistent with the recommendation just made by the hon. member.

[Translation]

Mr. C t  (Richelieu): Mr. Speaker, it is unfortunate that the member for Compton did not show the same attitude last night or earlier today.

Anyway, I shall deal with the principle of the bill. Some hon. members want to hear about the bill because they do not know what it is all about. The bill is meant to ensure the marketing of agricultural products throughout Canada. It seeks to allow the exchange of jurisdictions between provinces and the federal government with regard to marketing. The hon. member for T miscamingue (Mr. Caouette) said earlier that the problem does not come from production but rather from distribution which is precisely the object of the bill. The difficulty will be tackled, provided the members of the opposition accept and understand the bill. I