

Proceedings on Adjournment Motion

Canadians must have special permission before they can take their horses into New York state to race. Of course, the additional assistance United States owners receive from the government of New York state for the purpose of improving their stock means that we stand small chance of competing with them favourably at the race tracks in that state.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I would ask the Minister of Agriculture to look upon this one per cent tax that is being charged on parimutuel betting in Canada as a subsidy to be allotted to an all-Canadian standard Bred Breeders Association to enable the owners in our Canadian racing stables to improve their stock. It is interesting to note that there are as many horses or stables, I am not sure which, at the moment in New York state alone as there are in the entire Dominion of Canada.

I have spoken to many standard bred breeders who are interested in this problem. They have a great deal invested in what is becoming a very popular Canadian sport. These people are interested in having an all-Canadian standard bred breeders association instead of having a Standard Bred Breeders Association along provincial lines. It is only in this way that they can become a large enough

organization to compete with the stables in the United States.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Bécharde): Order, please. The parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Agriculture.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Florian Côté (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, when the hon. member for Renfrew North (Mr. Hopkins) and the hon. member for Pontiac (Mr. Lefebvre) called the attention of the minister to some discrimination that appeared to exist within the Canadian Trotting Association—we must not forget that this is a strictly private and independent association—the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Olson) got in touch with the officials of that association in order to know if discrimination really existed. The minister asked that measures be taken in order to stop this as soon as possible and that an elaborate inquiry be made.

I think that the minister will receive before long an answer to his request. He will then be pleased, as well as I, to communicate to the hon. member for Renfrew North any decision that might be reached.

Motion agreed to and the house adjourned at 10.27 p.m.
