

*Farm Products Marketing Agencies Bill*

I admit that for certain classes of producers, such as poultry and hog producers, this bill can be acceptable, because it amounts to a lesser evil than a catastrophe, but the exception proves the rule!

In conclusion, I want to tell the House that this is my position and it will not change. I think I have fulfilled my duty as concerns this bill, and if the majority of us has not yet been informed of what will happen if this bill is passed in its present version, we shall remember it in five years from now if on account of this legislation, we have to take special measures to help the small farmers who will have moved to the cities and will be state pensioners, living on welfare benefits. Thank God, I will not be responsible for that because I shall vote against the bill in its present version. With your permission Mr. Speaker, I should like to move, seconded by the hon. member for Bellechasse (Mr. Lambert) the following motion:

That Bill C-176 be not now read a third time, but that it be referred back to the Standing Committee on Agriculture, with instruction to amend clause 2(c) of the said bill in order to include any imported natural product of agriculture.

• (5:20 a.m.)

[English]

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. The House has before it for consideration the amendment. It seems to the Chair that the referral back of the clause may be in order and the Chair could accept it. However, I have some concern about the direction that is given in the motion.

I wonder if the mover of the motion would consider deleting the instruction that is given in the motion, which the Chair could then accept. I have to admit some difficulty in dealing with the other official language, with which I am not very familiar, but it would seem to me that if the mover of the amendment were to delete the last part, and if members were to give me their indulgence, it would be acceptable to the Chair if it is acceptable to the hon. member who proposed the motion—

[Translation]

—in order to include any imported natural product of agriculture.

[English]

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** I think that unless there are other objections, the Chair would be prepared to accept the amendment. I now have an English translation which assists me in considering the amendment. With the indulgence of hon. members, and using the English translation, perhaps I could suggest that if there were a change that this be referred back to the committee on agriculture with a suggestion that it be amended, it would be acceptable to the Chair. If the hon. member is prepared to accept the amendment in that way, that would be acceptable to the Chair.

[Translation]

**Mr. Beaudoin:** Mr. Speaker, I thank you for your remark. I believe the last three words are precisely the substantial part of my motion. In fact, we want above all to mention in this motion the natural products of agriculture that are imported.

If you want the clause to be referred back to the committee for study, we are ready to withdraw our amendment. We are ready to withdraw the part that seems

[Mr. Beaudoin.]

ambiguous to you from the point of view of procedure, except however the last three words of the amendment.

Agreed.

[English]

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The motion is before the House.

**Mr. J. H. Horner (Crowfoot):** I should like to rise at this point to support the hon. member for Richmond (Mr. Beaudoin). I assure Your Honour and the House that I intend to be brief. This subject matter has received wide and full discussion in the committee and it is one of the reasons why I was prompted to file motion No. 14, which has already been voted upon, which in essence suggested that there should be an amendment to clause 7 which I suggested should be lettered subclause (h). It would then have read:

• (5:30 a.m.)

—shall study the effects of imports on the price quantity of products grown in Canada and make recommendations to the minister—

The success of the application of supply management really depends upon the amount of the product coming onto the market. The experts who believe that the application of supply management domestically within Canada can regulate production to the degree that they can control the amount of a product coming on the market, and thereby provide greater stability within the industry, fail to take into consideration the important part that imports can play.

I notice that the Minister of Agriculture is still in his seat and he can correct me on this if I am wrong, but I recall that there was a loose arrangement or agreement made with regard to the egg market, egg supply and distribution within Canada, about four months ago. Provinces tentatively agreed to produce so many eggs and sell so many eggs in other provinces. According to an article which I read in the Magazine *Country Guide*, the minister accepted responsibility for controlling imports of eggs into the country so that this arrangement could have some chance of success. However, I understand that since that time the arrangement has broken apart. I do not think it has been successful.

But to bring the significance of this to the attention of the House I must refer back to Bill C-215 respecting the Textile and Clothing Board, and in particular to clause 9. That bill was basically designed to set up a board to regulate the clothing and textile industry. It is a highly vulnerable industry, in fact something like the egg and poultry industry to which the supply management concept of Bill C-176 will apply. Clause 9 of Bill C-215 provides:

The board, with respect to the importation of any textile and clothing goods,

(a) may, on its own initiative, or on receipt by the board of a notice of complaint filed pursuant to section 8, or

(b) shall, on receipt of a written request from the minister,

conduct an inquiry in order to determine whether the textile and clothing goods that are the subject of the inquiry are being imported at such prices, in such quantities and under such conditions as to cause or threaten serious injury to the production in Canada of any textile and clothing goods.