

*Farm Products Marketing Agencies Bill*

this policy in the National Dairy Commission. Producers will need a licence if all the terms of this bill are implemented. Under this bill an agency will have the power to allocate quotas, to tell the farmers how much they may produce. This is already being done through the national dairy policy.

**Mr. Olson:** It is not.

**Mr. Danforth:** Not only are producers being told how much they may produce but there is a levy against any production over the amount that they are allocated.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Danforth:** Mr. Speaker, can you imagine Canadian producers being fined for producing food in Canada? This is what is happening. Is this what the agricultural industry wants for its members? These agencies have the power to allocate quotas, to licence producers, to set up grading stations, to place feed lots—

**Mr. Olson:** May I ask the hon. member a question?

**Mr. Danforth:** Certainly.

**Mr. Olson:** It is a very simple question. Is he aware that all of these things he is talking about with respect to production controls are in the Ontario legislation?

**Mr. Danforth:** Mr. Speaker, certainly they are in the Ontario legislation.

**Mr. Olson:** Of course; it is all there.

**Mr. Danforth:** The minister says it is all there, but it is all there under the control of the representatives of the industry, not of a government bureau.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Danforth:** It is the members of the industry who make the decisions, not rocking-chair generals.

**Mr. Hees:** That is the difference. Listen, Bud, and you will learn something about your own legislation.

**Mr. Danforth:** Mr. Speaker, not only does the agency have the power to allocate quotas, designate who shall produce, licence producers, control marketing, pricing, sales, processing, distributing and packaging, but under the new provisions set out here the agency can levy against producers all the expenses incurred in the administration of an agency,

[Mr. Danforth.]

the office buildings of the agency and even, Mr. Speaker, the salaries and pension plans set up by the government for these government appointed directors. It is the producer who is going to pay, not the government, not the taxpayers, and all this is the work of a department which is supposed to promote the well being of the agricultural industry instead of decimating it.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Danforth:** The thing that bothers me more than anything else is that the basis of this bill is the establishment of a means for supply management and production control in Canada. I think the minister would be the first to agree with me. This is the basis of the bill.

**Mr. Olson:** And that power is exclusively within provincial jurisdiction.

**Mr. Danforth:** At the present time.

**Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West):** Wait until this bill is passed.

**Mr. Danforth:** The minister says it is for supply management—

**Mr. Olson:** And production.

**Mr. Danforth:** What do we have under supply management? Who are the advocates of supply management? Naturally if I had a large well established business, with all the volume that I could handle, I would be a supporter of a bill such as this because I could set up a monopoly with the blessing of the government. Government regulations could prevent any young farmer in the nation from starting in competition against me and could prevent anyone else from extending his business to take a share of mine. Yes, Mr. Speaker, I would be in a comfortable pew and I would certainly support this bill. But anyone who has the welfare of the agricultural industry at heart, an industry that perhaps is going through its greatest financial crisis, will take a long look at this legislation which places such power in the hands of a government bureau.

The government is proceeding with this supply management effort and I am very much surprised because this was not the recommendation of its own task force. The government set up a task force to advise it on what was going wrong with agriculture, and I would like to quote that part of the report of