Supply

Unfortunately, since I have only a few minutes left, I do not have the time before five o'clock this afternoon to give more details about all the farming policies of the federal government, but if the Chair allows me to do so, I would like to take this opportunity to mention the dairy products promotion program, which is all to the credit of the government and which is already beginning to show positive results. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call your attention to the various dairy research programs put forward by Agriculture Canada. Because it is concerned with the need to better balance the production and consumption of dairy products in Canada, the department has been working with the private sector and research bodies on a \$4 million program that was called for in the national dairy policy announced last spring. This program is administered by the Canadian Dairy Commission and aims at stimulating consumption and the use of milk products, especially skim milk powder. And since 48 per cent of industrial milk producers are based in the province of Quebec, it is my view that those government expenditures will first and foremost benefit Quebec producers, a great number of whom are in the constituency of Drummond I represent here in this House.

There are three main goals: new product development, advertising and market research. Nearly \$1 million have been allocated to the first goal, \$2.4 million to the second and \$500,000 to the third one. The Canadian government has signed contracts with various private firms for the development of new products, such as cheese of low fat content, Greek cheese and skim milk cheese.

Another project is aimed at increasing the opportunities for skim milk marketing in underdeveloped countries. The maximum term for these projects is three years, and the Canadian dairy product bureau, a producer body established to promote milk consumption, will be leading a \$2.4 million advertising campaign. Last year, the Canadian government helped industrial milk producers by writing off the \$152 million export debt, but this was of a short term nature only. The \$4 million research and promotion program, put forward as I said by the Canadian government for the benefit of our farmers, should bring longer term answers.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): Order. It being five o'clock, the House will now proceed to the consideration of private members' business as listed on today's order paper, namely notices of motions, private and public bills.

The Parliamentary Secretary to President of Privy Council.

Mr. Pinard: Mr. Speaker, there has been an agreement among the leaders of the various parties to proceed first with consideration of private bill 1001 and then with motion No. 4 standing in the name of the hon. member for Vaudreuil (Mr. Herbert). I ask for the unanimous consent of the House to proceed in that way and to allow the other motions and bills to stand.

[Mr. Pinard.]

[English]

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, the hon. parliamentary secretary is correct this time. There has been such an agreement.

Mr. Paproski: Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles) says that it is true, then I will go along with it.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): Order, please. Hon. members have heard the representations of the hon. parliamentary secretary. Is it agreed and so ordered that we proceed to Bill C-1001 immediately?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): Agreed and so ordered.

• (1702)

PRIVATE BILLS

[English]

BELL CANADA

The House resumed, from Thursday, Febraury 9, consideration of the motion of Mr. O'Connell that Bill C-1001, respecting Bell Canada, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications, and the amendment thereto of Mr. Leggatt.

Hon. Martin O'Connell (Scarborough East): Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the consent that the House has given for us to proceed with this bill at this time. After considering the questions raised in the extended debate in the House on Bill C-1001—debate that began in the previous session some 14 months ago—I would like to advise the House that, as the sponsor of this private bill, I intend to introduce three important amendments in the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications, assuming the House is willing to send the bill to the committee. I will describe to the House the essential nature of these amendments, all of which were circulated some days ago either to House leaders or whips, or to other representatives of all parties in the House. I should also say that the proposed amendments arise out of discussions held under my auspices as sponsor of the bill.

The amendments arose out of discussions I had with officers of the company and with certain party representatives in the House. I have also had the benefit of some brief and informal discussions with members of all parties in the House. Therefore, my hope is that the amendments—which I now give assurance will be moved in the appropriate standing committee—will enable the House to give second reading this afternoon to the bill and send it to the committee for formal amendment and further consideration.

The first two amendments to be proposed would delete clause 5.2 and clause 5.3 on page 7 of the bill entirely. The