

Farm Products Marketing Agencies Bill

Mr. Paproski: Where is your minister?

Mr. McBride: We have four in the front benches. Where are yours?

Mr. Horner: I want to announce the number of changes that were made.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Horner: If all this catcalling and hollering goes on, I would like to have it deducted from the time allotted to me, Mr. Speaker. I do not care what the hour is right now. I once remember speaking at 7.30 in the morning, not of my desire but at their request. If I cannot have order, I will sit down.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Question.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. I am sure that some hon. members, as well as the Chair, are interested in listening to the remarks of the hon. member. I think he should be permitted to complete his remarks.

Mr. Horner: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If the hon. member for Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton (Mr. McBride) had entered this House at the beginning of the debate with his mind as open as his mouth, he might well have learned something and he might well have been more knowledgeable than he is now.

Mr. Schumacher: You are scared of television, are you not?

Mr. Horner: Let me tell you, Mr. Speaker, of the major changes that were made in the committee. First, we had a bill called C-197, which became C-176, which is to appoint a council at the wish of the minister or the governor in council. We saw this happen in the task force report on agriculture. There were nine members of the commission, four of whom reported for eastern Canada and knew nothing of agriculture, two of whom were from Ontario and knew nothing of agriculture, two of whom were from Quebec and knew little of agriculture, and one was a person by the name of Clair Gibson from Manitoba, a university professor who while his thinking was warped perhaps did know something about agriculture. What are the facts? The first amendment accepted by the agricultural committee is this, that the council will be composed of from three to nine members, 50 per cent of whom must be producers. It is pretty hard to divide nine into two, or to divide three by two. I do not know how they will do this, but I think that five of the nine members should be producers. That is what we asked for in June when this bill was first brought forward.

An hon. Member: Speak louder.

Mr. Horner: I can easily outshoot or outshout any member in the House, but when it comes to a bunch of jackals, how can one outshoot or outshoot them? I will take on any one of them, or the whole bunch of them, in either contest, shooting or shouting, if that is what the House of Commons has become embroiled in. Is it an outshouting match or an outshooting match? Which do they want? Which are you going to request, Mr. Speaker,

[Mr. McBride.]

from your prominent position in the House of Commons? Will it be outshooting or outshouting? I believe that you should request a little decorum in this House.

• (3:50 a.m.)

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Horner: I will take them on either way, but I grew up in a family that believed in democracy and freedom of speech. I would like to think that in this particular place one could have freedom of speech no matter what the hour of the day, and I hope I am in no way casting reflections on your ability to occupy the seat that you do, Mr. Speaker. I am not saying anything that should particularly offend anyone over there, but apparently at this hour they are sensitive about this bill. As I said, I can talk until 7.30 in the morning.

Some hon. Members: Carry on, Jack.

Mr. Baldwin: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I should mention that if this debate continues until tomorrow it will be January 1, 1972, and this session will have lasted for three calendar years, mainly because of the administrative incompetence of the government.

An hon. Member: And obstruction from your party.

Mr. Baldwin: And if it does last until 1972, it will be because hon. gentlemen opposite are not providing the courtesy of allowing members of our party to speak.

Mr. Horner: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order so that what I say now will not be deducted from my 20 minutes. I have not interrupted anybody in the House of Commons for the last three hours.

An hon. Member: That's garbage.

Mr. McGrath: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I believe it is your responsibility to impose the Standing Orders on the House, and there is Standing Order 12(3) which says that a member has a right to speak without interruption. I suggest to Your Honour that you should impose that Standing Order.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. I am sure hon. members on both sides are aware that the Chair cannot apply the rules of the House unless it gets the co-operation of hon. members. I am asking the co-operation of hon. members on both sides of the House. Unless the Chair gets this co-operation, whether for one speaker or another, it will be impossible to be fair to everybody. I hope that all hon. members who seek the floor to give an expression of opinion in this debate will have the opportunity to do so and be heard.

Mr. Horner: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for St. John's East—

[*Translation*]

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I wish to call the attention of hon. members to the fact that I personally know the hon. member for Crowfoot (Mr. Horner). When he asks that hon. members listen, he is right, for he has never caused the committee or the House to waste a single second.