

*S. O. 31**[English]***GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE**

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell): Mr. Speaker, we are presently in the crucial stages at the GATT talks in Europe.

Canada ranks second to lowest in the cost of a typical food basket among western nations and the quality of our products is second to none.

Under the current GATT negotiations, Canada is calling for the reduction of export subsidies and the clarification of article XI. Should article XI not be clarified and even worse, replaced with tariffication, the supply management system as we know it would be weakened to the point where eventually it would not protect these sectors at all.

On Tuesday morning, representatives from the five supply managed sectors pressed their point here in Ottawa. In a market analysis they conducted, they predicted decreases in revenue each year and half of the farms disappearing in some sectors if tariffs replace the quantitative import restrictions we now have. This is what the future holds for us if the Dunkel proposals go ahead.

• (1410)

On behalf of the food production sector, I urge the government and the country's representatives at the GATT talks to stand their ground with regard to article XI. Canada has too much to lose.

* * *

*[Translation]***INCOME TAX**

Mr. Guy Saint-Julien (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, Father Alfred Couturier and Mr. Gilles Bourgeois, of Amos, and Mr. Léo Lacroix, of Barraute, in Abitibi, recently wrote to me to tell me that they found it unfair that married couples paid a "marriage tax" in 1989 that amounted to \$570 per couple, on average, and as much as \$980 in some cases. The Income Tax Act has not changed since then. They think that the government is thus penalizing married couples, when it should encourage marriage and family stability.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the Minister of Finance and the Minister of National Health and Welfare to act as soon as possible to remedy this situation which is unfavorable to Canadian family life.

* * *

*[English]***UNEMPLOYMENT**

Ms. Dawn Black (New Westminster—Burnaby): Mr. Speaker, yesterday in B.C. more jobs were lost because of the free trade agreement. The Department of Employment and Immigration has given work visas to foreign workers to dismantle the Wolverine copper tubing plant in New Westminster. The equipment is being shipped to Korea.

Section 15 of the trade deal permits foreign workers to do anything from pipefitting and welding, to crane operating and truck swamping. Now Canadians are even being deprived of the job of dismantling the plant where they already lost 200 jobs. Where does this end?

Three years ago, the Bureau of Competition reversed its own decision and allowed a Canadian copper tubing plant to be sold to U.S. interests. These owners then shut the doors and 200 jobs were lost.

Last night on B.C. TV news it was revealed that a U.S. based contractor had been hired six months previously to dismantle this plant, even though the company was encouraging an employee buyout.

After all that has happened to the many Canadian workers who have lost their jobs, must they now stand back helplessly as the government allows foreign workers to enter Canada, pack up Canadian jobs and ship them away?

* * *

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

Mr. Garth Turner (Halton—Peel): Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with members of the House the results of a survey I conducted recently in my riding of Halton—Peel.

I asked all constituents to respond to 14 simple questions, to give me comments on the government's policies and also on our political system. To my amazement, more than 4,000 households took part in the survey, allowing me to write a lengthy report.