

want to join with me in presenting the Hon. Member with a special award. I would suggest it should be an award for doom and gloom.

• (1210)

I was amazed listening to the Hon. Member, because it was evident from his speech that he has no confidence in the ability of Canadian farmers. He has absolutely no confidence in the people in the Canadian agri-food industry to rise to the occasion and take advantage of probably one of the greatest opportunities and challenges that have faced them since Confederation.

I am not sure where the Hon. Member gets his figures when he indicates that there will be a 20 per cent increase of poultry products and a 25 per cent increase of something else. If I refer to the agreement itself—

Mr. Riis: We haven't seen the agreement yet—

Mr. Wise: —and look at the actual amount of increase in chicken parts and products, it is not 20 per cent, but 1.2 per cent. These increases simply reflect the exact amount of imports that have come into the country anyhow over the last five years.

If we look at the turkey parts and processed products, the increase is not 20 per cent, but 1.5 per cent. If we look at shelled eggs, there is a total increase of 0.9 per cent. If we look at processed eggs, liquid and frozen, the increase is 0.299 per cent. If we look at powdered eggs, the increase is 0.02 per cent.

Does the Hon. Member not realize that the agreement was reached, not unilaterally by the Government but by consultation and negotiations within the SAGIT committee? Our Government made a firm commitment to maintain supply management intact. People play around a little bit with the tariff list. If people understood the Canada-U.S. trade agreement and the rules of GATT we could move those semi-processed products and so on from the tariff list to the import-export list to protect part of the underpinnings and the day-to-day operations of the supply management board. We did not do it unilaterally, we did it by agreement with the United States, consistent with Article 11 of GATT.

The SAGIT committee recommended this action in support of the continuing financial viability of the Canadian Food Processing Industry, which is the largest single employer in Canada. It does not make much sense to maintain supply management if you place in jeopardy the financial viability of the food processors. If the food processor goes down the tube then where in the world will Canadian producers sell their primary products?

This was a sensible arrangement arrived at through negotiations and consensus within the SAGIT committee. We have full and complete control over the additional product if required. Of course, the local agency has the opportunity to supply its product. That has always been the case. It cannot supply the product in a three week period. It varies product to

Supply

product. Often times the national agency will say "Look, issue the import permit". Nothing has really changed.

Under this agreement, does the Hon. Member not realize that not one extra chicken piece or part will come into Canada than has already come in over the last five years? Does the Hon. Member not realize that and understand why we did that? Does the Hon. Member not understand Article 11 of GATT?

Mr. Foster: Madam Speaker, we have great confidence in Canadian producers, farmers and food processors but we have no confidence in this agreement. It really moves to sell out Canadian producers.

I note in the agreement that Canada will now not go to GATT as an independent country fighting for Canadians but will go there as an adjunct to the United States. As the Prime Minister has done in every single international negotiation since 1984, it will be a "me, too" with President Reagan. That is exactly the way the Government will behave in the multilateral trade negotiations and at the GATT.

I am glad the Minister mentioned Section 11. I defy him to table in this House the documents which the Minister for International Trade tabled in Geneva last week. It is totally unacceptable that we have a Government that tables in GATT its proposals for the negotiations but refuses to table them for Canadians. The United States has tabled its documents in the United States so that the legislatures know what is going on, but this Government tables documents secretly.

Mr. Wise: What did you do? You did not table documents in two rounds of GATT.

Mr. Foster: The Minister of State (Grains and Oil Seeds) (Mr. Mayer), if he read the agreement, would find that his Government said, "Our position at GATT and at the MTN will be a me too position".

Mr. Wise: False.

Mr. Foster: We are not going there as an independent country. Read the agreement. The Member has not read the agreement. The Minister mentioned section 11 of GATT. Where will Canada be at the end of the day on those negotiations? The Minister knows that the United States of America is going to GATT saying, "We want section 11 removed" which provides for marketing boards, for supply management and border controls. We also know that a lot of the Cairns Group about which the Minister speaks often wanted the same thing. That group wants to get rid of the power of supply management, border controls and marketing boards which have worked extremely well for Canada. I want to know what those secret documents say and what Canada's position will be in that regard. Nobody knows.

Let me deal with the question of the poultry imports. Clearly Canada's poultry industry will be put under a great deal of pressure.