

Government Orders

I think the first priority all Canadians must be asked to accept is that we must have a security of food supply. That is where I say to my hon. friend from Toronto that the interest of a downtown resident of Toronto is as crucial as it is for the farmer in North Battleford or in southwestern Ontario.

If we lose that sense of security that we can control and manage our own farm food supply, that we will not be dependent on other monopolies, we will lose not just on the price side but we will also lose something on the environmental side. We will be encouraging the ravaging of the forests of Latin America to provide beef or the incredible ravaging of the lands of southwestern United States which have been totally denuded because of the use of chemicals and pesticides. There is an integrated linkage or cycle that we all belong to.

When you pick up your corn wrapped in cellophane in a package in your supermarket, it is a decision that if you did it in a different way and were prepared to pay a proper price you would not listen to these savage prophets on the other side who say: "If we get rid of supply management we can have cheaper food". Yes, maybe this month, but try next year or the year after.

It must be recognized that right now in Canada we have one of the most bountiful breadbaskets in the world. We also have been very careful because of our tender ecology and our fragile environment to build into it a system that supports farmers against the cycles of world markets and bad climate. That is what we have to get people to accept. It may cost more in terms of pennies, but in the long run we will save thousands of dollars in terms of what it means to be Canadian.

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MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I have the honour to inform the House that a message has been received from the Senate informing this House that the Senate has passed the following bills without amendment: Bill C-6, an act to amend the Radio Act and certain other acts in consequence thereof; Bill C-17, an act to amend the Customs Tariff; and Bill C-19, an act to amend the Canadian Exploration and Development Incentive Program Act.

THE ROYAL ASSENT

• (1640)

[English]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. I have the honour to inform the House that a communication has been received as follows:

Government House
Ottawa

October 4, 1989

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the Honourable Beverley McLachlin, Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Canada, in her capacity as Deputy Governor General, will proceed to the Senate chamber today, the 4th day of October, at 4.45 p.m., for the purpose of giving the Royal Assent to certain Bills.

Yours sincerely
Jean M. Sévigny
Deputy Secretary, Operations

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

ADVANCE PAYMENTS FOR CROPS ACT**MEASURE TO AMEND**

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Mazankowski that Bill C-36, an act to amend the Advance Payments for Crops Act and the Prairie Grain Advance Payments Act, be read a second time and referred to a legislative committee; and the amendment of Mr. Foster (p. 4275).

Mr. Deputy Speaker: On questions or comments, the hon. member for Winnipeg St. James.

Mr. Harvard: Mr. Speaker, the remarks of the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre touched a chord, because I can say unequivocally that all of us have a lot at stake when it comes to the farm community. It is not just farmers or the small towns but it is people like the hon. member next to me who comes from Toronto.

I grew up on a farm in southern Manitoba. I know what it is like to go through a harvest period, getting up at five o'clock in the morning, getting the machinery ready for the work on the land during the day, milking cows, going out and combining all day. If you did not have dew on the grass, if you did not have dew on the stubble, you could perhaps combine until midnight, one o'clock or two o'clock in the morning. We would get perhaps two or three hours of sleep so that we could get up early in the morning and go to work and repeat the cycle.