

*Farm Credit Act*

hon. member for Argenteuil-Deux-Montagnes (Mr. Drouin) are excellent and appropriate, but on the other hand, I am under the impression that the observations of the hon. member for Matapedia-Matane (Mr. Belzile) are made precisely with a view to coming to the aim of the resolution. I am sure that the hon. member will almost immediately revert to the subject under discussion.

**Mr. Ricard:** The Liberals did talk to us about Cap de la Madeleine.

**An hon. Member:** Nothing has been said about St. Hyacinthe.

**Mr. Belzile:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Before going any further, I would ask my hon. friend, the member for Argenteuil-Deux-Montagnes, to show a little more patience. I will deal more directly with the matter under consideration in a few minutes. I was saying that this bill to establish a food bank will be called to play two very important parts—

**The Deputy Chairman:** Order. I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member. I think he should keep as much as possible to the matter under discussion. This is not the time to make a complete analysis of the government's agricultural policy. He should discuss instead the advisability of increasing the funds to be put at the disposal of the federal Farm Credit Corporation. I urge him respectfully to come back to the subject of the resolution.

**Mr. Belzile:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will try to prove to you that I can be obedient.

I should like to pass a few remarks about some members who have gone far afield and more than once, but, with all due respect, Mr. Chairman, I mention it for those who will speak after me.

Therefore, I shall confine my remarks to the resolution and I shall be brief. I do not intend to pat anybody on the back nor to criticize anyone. But let us say that I want to establish certain facts. I am entitled to it and it is my duty as a representative of the people and a member of the farming community. Of course, many members of the house know already that I am a farmer.

**An hon. Member:** It shows.

**Mr. Belzile:** I have been a farmer, a landowner and a professional in every sense of the word since 1932, at the time of a crisis brought about by the Liberal party before getting out of office in 1930.

**Mr. Drouin:** I rise on a point of order, Mr. Chairman. Everyone knows that the Liberal party got out of office in 1930 and sincerely we are sorry for that.

**An hon. Member:** We did not know they were responsible for the depression.

**The Deputy Chairman:** The hon. member should not be so touchy about the remarks that other members of the house may make concerning a party. I feel the hon. member for Matapedia-Matane has the right to express his opinions in the house.

**Mr. Belzile:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I was saying, I started farming on my own in 1932 and it is on my farm that I raised 14 children—

**An hon. Member:** That is better than having small dogs.

**Mr. Belzile:**—that is where, thanks to the work of my wife, my children and myself, we succeeded in feeding, clothing and raising fourteen children, eleven girls and three boys. Of course, Mr. Chairman, I do not claim to know as much about agriculture as the hon. member for Bonaventure (Mr. Bechard) and the hon. member for Argenteuil-Deux-Montagnes (Mr. Drouin), but I am still practical enough and I have enough experience in agriculture and in those fields to express an opinion. My experience is based not only on great theories but on practical experience.

If you will allow me, I should like to quote without any malice—because I am not a bad fellow—from a speech delivered in the house on October 4, by the hon. member for Argenteuil-Deux-Montagnes. It is recorded on page 196 of *Hansard*:

Mr. Speaker, mine is a constituency which has deeply suffered from the government's unconcern since 1957 as regards agricultural policy. Most farmers back home are dairy producers, and they are facing an unprecedented crisis.

Mr. Chairman, my only reason for quoting that extract from my hon. friend's speech is to remind him, in case he does not know it yet, that in the province of Quebec, the price of milk is not under the control of the federal government, but of the dairy industry board, a provincial organization.

Having said that, Mr. Chairman, I would like to come back—

**Mr. Drouin:** May I put a question to the hon. member?