## Government Orders

Allmand NAYS116 Althouse Angus Arseneault Assad Axworthy (Saskatoon-Clark's Crossing) Bélair Bellemare Benjamin Boudria Callbeck Brewin Campbell (South West Nova) Catterall Clancy Comuzzi Dingwall Dionne Ferguson Foster Fontana Fulton Gray (Windsor West) Gauthier Harvard Harvey (Edmonton East) Heap Hovdebo Hopkins Karpoff Hunter Langan (Mission-Coquitlam) Kristiansen MacAulay Manley MacDonald (Dartmouth) Milliken McGuire Mitchell Nault Nystrom Nunziata Pagtakhan Ouellet Pickard Peterson Proud Rideout Robichaud Robinson Rocheleau Skelly (Comox-Alberni) Simmons Speller Stewart Stupich Wood Young (Gloucester)-66

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): I declare the motion carried.

## ADVANCE PAYMENTS FOR CROPS ACT

## MEASURE TO AMEND

The House resumed from Tuesday, October 24, 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 the second time and referred to a legislative committee, and the amendment of Mr. Schneider (p. 5069).

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The hon. member for Regina—Lumsden has two minutes left in his debate.

Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina—Lumsden): Mr. Speaker, I would like some clarification. Am I finishing my magnificent speech on second reading, or can I now speak on the closure motion?

• (1220)

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The hon. member has two minutes remaining in the speech that he had prior, and that will be it.

Mr. Benjamin: I would rather have another 20 minutes. However, I wish to make a few quick points in the time remaining. I hope I get some questions, particularly from the member for Regina—Wascana.

I want to point out something that has not been mentioned yet about interest free cash advances. The repayment record by the farmers of Canada is in the order of 99 per cent. It is probably the best record of repayment of any government program.

The other point I want to make is that the government is breaking the law. It has refused to allow the Canadian Wheat Board to issue interest free cash advances since August 1, the beginning of the crop year. This legislation was being implemented before it even saw the light of day in the House of Commons. If that is not law breaking, I do not know what is. If that is not the worst kind of totalitarian activity, I do not know what is. The Canadian Wheat Board has not been allowed, even though the law says it can and should make interest free cash advances since August 1. That is a violation not only of the law, but it is a violation of the farm industry in Canada.

Some farmers need cash now to meet their payments to the Farm Credit Corporation, to clean up their fuel bills from their harvest and for a host of other things. There are many places in this country where at the moment their produce either cannot be sold or there is so much of it, it should not be sold. Why victimize agricultural producers for something that is no fault of theirs, that was not of their doing or their creation?

As I pointed out before and repeat, we provide interest free loans, which will never be paid, to the corporate sector through deferred corporation taxes, about \$40 billion worth. That is an interest free deferment of taxes which are deferred forever. But the government wants to deny farmers interest free cash advances, which they have always repaid in full. This flies in the face of what used to be a very good—they did not have very many—policy of the Conservative Party. In fact, the political parties in the prairie provinces were united on this issue back in the 1940s and 1950s. The stubborn Liberal