

*Farm Products Marketing Agencies Bill*

At one time yesterday, I thought the bill would finally pass. But all of a sudden, I was challenged by my colleague the hon. member for Portneuf (Mr. Godin) in a way that greatly surprised me, as he did not say anything about the bill. He is a good friend of the leader of the Ralliement créditiste (Mr. Caouette), to whom I will say something in a moment about his philosophy. The hon. member for Portneuf did not say a single word about the substance of this bill. He could not see its usefulness for the years to come nor that the associations that asked for it will find a way of turning it to account.

It is not the government that is going to use it, as this measure is intended for the farmers and the farm associations and all the provinces that will ask for increased powers from the central government. Perhaps the latter may then demand certain powers from the provinces, as the intended measures concerning the marketing of certain products may go beyond its jurisdiction.

When the hon. member for Portneuf criticized me, thinking I was the dairy industry's special consultant for eastern Canada, I was astonished because in his constituency he says I am not doing anything in the House, and here he says I am the boss in everything.

He especially criticized the dairy policy and I should not like to dwell on the subject as it would not be of any use for my colleagues of the Ralliement créditiste. In fact, one of them drowned in milk, in Sherbrooke, 15 days ago, and I think another will have the same fate next Friday.

The hon. member for Témiscamingue (Mr. Caouette) explained to us a while ago a funny theory. He spoke to us of the Créditiste philosophy—

**Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi):** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order—

[English]

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The hon. member is seeking permission to ask a question. It is up to the Parliamentary Secretary whether he accepts it at this point.

[Translation]

**Mr. Côté (Richelieu):** Yesterday afternoon, Mr. Speaker, I asked my hon. friends of the Ralliement créditiste, who were quite carried away by their own philosophy, if I could put a question to them, and they refused. I now refuse to answer their questions. They can put them after—

[Mr. Côté (Richelieu).]

**Mr. Laprise:** Mr. Speaker, on a question of privilege—

[English]

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member is rising on a point of order.

[Translation]

**Mr. Laprise:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege.

The hon. member for Richelieu (Mr. Côté) said that a Créditiste member drowned in milk in Sherbrooke. I should like him to tell us also where the two federal Liberal members were at that time—

**Some hon. Members:** Order.

[English]

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. That is not a point of order.

[Translation]

**Mr. Côté (Richelieu):** Mr. Speaker, in reply to my hon. friend, I say that when the House is sitting, the Liberal members are in the House, as they should be, instead of going around politicking as they have done. The Liberal members were here, in the House, when those things happened.

**Mr. Laprise:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker—

[English]

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. I am certainly prepared to hear the hon. member on a point of order. I wonder how quickly we are going to advance this bill if we continue in this way. I am prepared to hear the hon. member on a point of order.

[Translation]

**Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue):** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

Further to the statement made by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Agriculture who had just told us that it is the duty of the Liberal members to sit in the House during the session, I should like to ask him where the government members are right now, while we are sitting—

[English]

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. That again is hardly a point of order.

[Translation]

**Mr. Côté (Richelieu):** I am willing to answer the question.