

*Agricultural Policies*

going to be true producers, will receive an income in keeping with their efforts.

• (12:40 p.m.)

Therefore, farmers are not satisfied and for the progressive producers, the dairy policy represents a step backwards because of the penalty imposed on any production increase of output, even though such an increase is often required to ensure better use of resources.

The moment the government agreed to set a fixed budget for the dairy industry and allowed that policy to retain both its economic and so-called social aspects, it had to strike at the producers who were on the path of progress. This is indeed what it did. This move is a perfect illustration of the situation described earlier. It is unfortunate, because we were under the impression that we might gradually dispel the confusion already mentioned and which, once again, dealt a severe blow at the efficient and professional producers.

The price support policy of finished products at the same level as last year is not a true indication of the actual prices paid to producers. The cut in subsidies paid to producers and the penalty imposed on any production increase will seriously affect the income of farmers who are facing increased costs.

This summer, the cost-price squeeze will thus become even tighter, because in several fields, the prices of the commodities needed by the farmers to produce during a production cycle keep going up. The state may justify its decision by pointing out the imbalance between the supply and demand of dairy products. Such is the inconvenience of managing an industry solely through a pricing policy without due regard for that industry's economy of production. Such a method is likely to cause serious injustice to some categories of producers and to a professional group as a whole.

There is no doubt that agriculture is an essential industry in our Canadian economy, and it is extremely important that all levels of government take the necessary steps to ensure its survival and to give producers the assurance that, not only will they be able to earn a good living, but that they will have their due share of the national income and of the benefits of a "just society" in which I still believe. I am convinced that the government will sustain its efforts with a view to establishing a "just society" before it is too late.

Recently I had the occasion in Paris, "the City of Light", to witness a demonstration that amounted to a riot. I was astonished to see how fast things happened. In fact, at 2.10 p.m. everything was quiet and at 2.15 a full-scale civil war was in progress. Barrels of oil and gas were spilled in the streets and set on fire; store windows were shattered; in a word, it was havoc. I asked one of the demonstrators why he was behaving that way. He answered that he did not know, that he was acting on his leader's orders.

Those European leaders seem to share the views of some Canadian leaders. In fact, it was reported in Montreal recently that people obey certain leaders implicitly. That is dangerous. Therefore, it is absolutely necessary to take those measures designed to improve the lot of the workers, including the agricultural workers, so as to restore their faith in our country.

A census was taken of approximately half of Canada's farms. These are involved in growing wheat and raising livestock. They include some 20,000 commercial dairy farms and approximately 10,000 smaller farms, producing grain other than wheat. About 80 p. 100 of the country's arable land is in western Canada, most of it now given over to the production of wheat, rapeseed and flax-seed.

I saw the same thing in France. I visited vast expanses and I met peasants who are unhappy because they do not get a fair deal. They do not get the justice to which they are entitled and one gains the impression that there is a climate of dissent and that the farmers are dissatisfied.

In my opinion, the government, which has always been progressive and has always been able to take the required decisions at the most serious times, and I am convinced that the members of the opposition will agree with that, should immediately take action to further develop the economy as a whole and guarantee a possibility of survival, particularly to the agriculture economy, so that young people between the ages of 18 and 22 now seeking jobs may have hope in our country and the faith they need because at that age if they are not busy doing good things they will do bad ones. That is the tendency that prevails now in the province of Quebec and in other provinces as well.

As a matter of fact, not too long ago, young people sitting in the galleries unexpectedly interrupted the proceedings of the House by their yelling and their shouting. And it is my opinion that if this motion is not seriously