Farm Products Marketing Agencies Bill

These farmers presently operate under provincial legislation. They have been successful in maintaining family farms and have effectively stopped the proliferation of vertical integration in both provinces. I ask the hon. member for Swift Current-Maple Creek (Mr. McIntosh) whether he really knows there is a group of integrated medical doctors in Saskatchewan. Does he know anything about these people who are presently endeavouring to take over the turkey industry to the detriment of family farms? If these people had not been bailed out of a particular program they would be creating a problem now. I would suggest that the hon. members opposite should talk to the small farmers in Saskatchewan who require this.

• (3:30 a.m.)

I would suggest to the hon. member for Vegreville (Mr. Mazankowski) that he should speak to the people in his area who have been operating for many years successful marketing boards and who are asking for a co-ordinated operation such as would become effective through Bill C-176.

I said I would be brief, Mr. Speaker, but I want to say one more thing. The hon, member quoted a letter from the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. Let me tell this hon. gentleman that I operated in the city of Edmonton for a number of years and I can recall, before there were marketing boards, a time when the very farmers I am talking about could not even go into a bank. Now they can go into the Canadian Bank of Commerce to borrow money because of the viability of the industry created by the operation of the provincial marketing boards. So I say that if these members from Saskatchewan and Alberta have really any concern for the small family farm, for heaven's sake they should learn a little about what is going on. If they would do that, they would realize that what they say is nothing more than hogwash. This is not inclusive legislation; it is exclusive legislation. The cattlemen will have to fight to come under the provisions of the bill if they want to do so. However, for the benefit of the people who want to operate in that way, I say the sooner this bill passes the better, because these people would tell these members opposite a few things about the benefits of marketing boards for the agricultural producers of Canada.

Mr. Danson: Mr. Speaker, would the hon. member permit a question?

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Mr. Danson).

Mr. Danson: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the hon. member for Fraser Valley East (Mr. Pringle) if he is trying to indicate that the turkey producers are being goosed.

Mr. Pringle: All I can say is that the last time I was in Edmonton there was on the streetcar a goose who is a person.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The hon. member for Crowfoot (Mr. Horner).

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

[Mr. Pringle.]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. The Chair has recognized the hon. member for Crowfoot.

An hon. Member: Mr. Speaker, there is a stranger in the press gallery.

An hon. Member: There is a stranger in the House.

Mr. J. H. Horner (Crowfoot): Mr. Speaker, I readily admit I have not been in the House of Commons for the past couple of hours. I have been resting and therefore perhaps do not appreciate all the noise previous speakers have engendered. I might just say that the interchange between the Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Mr. Danson) and the hon. member for Fraser Valley East (Mr. Pringle) which I have just witnessed convinces me that very few members of this House of Commons really know what a turkey saddle involves.

An hon. Member: Your leader does not know.

Mr. Horner: But the-

Some hon. Members: Oh. oh!

An hon. Member: Let him speak.

Mr. Forrestall: Joe, if you have something to say, come in here and say it and do not stand out there like an idiot.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. The hon member for St. Boniface (Mr. Guay) on a question of privilege.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege I should like to bring to your attention the fact that there is no one in the front bench of the loyal opposition.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

An hon. Member: They do not have any front bench.

An hon. Member: Move up, Jack.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. I think hon members should give more co-operation to the Chair and should be fair enough to let the hon member for Crowfoot make his speech.

Mr. Horner: Mr. Speaker, I feel like somebody who has arrived late at a New Year's party and realizes that no matter what he says or does, he cannot catch up with the others in what they are involved in doing.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Horner: What I was referring to with regard to the turkey saddle exchange was merely an expression quite well used in the turkey industry which very few people realize. I used that expression only to exemplify beyond a shadow of doubt that few Members of Parliament from the very beginning of the famous Bill C-176 knew anything about it and here, at the climax and end of the debate, one can still use the same expression. And well do I know the member for Fraser Valley East knows what I mean. I can still use that same expression and very few members know what it means.

Mr. Pringle: Would the hon. member permit a question?