

implants. Belatedly, this government has followed the U.S. lead.

Scientists have known for 30 years that the presence of silicone in the body can be a contributing factor to a host of auto-immune diseases. Both the FDA in the U.S. and the Health Protection Branch here in Canada have been aware of these problems and yet have allowed women to be used to test implants. Dr. Pierre Blais raised the alarm and was fired. Pierre Blais has been vindicated and it is obvious from what we know now that we cannot rely on the manufacturers to prove the safety of implants.

This government has dithered, dodged and denied its responsibility—

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member's time has expired.

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#### AEROVOX CANADA INC.

**Mr. Bill Casey (Cumberland—Colchester):** Mr. Speaker, at the end of December the American parent company of Aerovox Canada announced it was closing the Amherst, Nova Scotia branch plant of Aerovox and moving all production to the United States.

This came as a surprise to all involved as the plant had just announced an expansion a few months earlier, along with a plan to move all production to Canada. The Amherst plant is more competitive and generates over 15 per cent profit on sales while the U.S. plant generates only 6.5 per cent. While generating only 12 per cent of the total Aerovox sales they contribute 24 per cent of the profit in Canada.

Based on common sense and normal business practice, the Amherst plant should be the one to stay open. Meanwhile discussions have begun with Industry, Science and Technology in an effort to locate a new product or owner for this factory and a local community committee has been formed to search for solutions. As well, the Department of Industry, Science and Technology is committed to assist in any way possible.

I urge the minister to take a personal interest in this issue because what happened to the employees in this factory in Amherst just should not have happened.

*S. O. 31*

#### TRADE

**Ms. Catherine Callbeck (Malpeque):** Mr. Speaker, despite almost daily assurances in the last session of Parliament, this government appears to have given up on its efforts to negotiate a strengthened and protected Article XI in the current GATT negotiations.

This government has not yet gone the last mile to protect our supply management system which has provided stable prices for our dairy, poultry and egg producers and secure supplies for Canadians for more than 20 years.

• (1410)

I call on the Prime Minister to enter into bilateral negotiations with his counterparts in the United States and the European Community, directed at gaining support for the clarification and strengthening of Article XI. Also I call on the Ministers of International Trade and Agriculture to do the same with their counterparts.

As well, every effort should be made to establish negotiating ties, bonds of support with other countries which may be inclined to support our position, including Japan and South Korea.

We have had enough idle talk. Let us now see some concrete action for the dairy, poultry and egg producers of our country.

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#### TRADE

**Mr. Peter L. McCreath (South Shore):** Mr. Speaker, the Canadian supply management system has fostered stable, viable poultry, egg and dairy industries in Atlantic Canada. By contrast, the American system has led to a highly integrated, highly concentrated, centralized industry.

Expectations of Atlantic farmers are that if the draft agreement put forward by Arthur Dunkel at the GATT negotiations is implemented, it will lead to the wiping out of vast numbers of Atlantic farmers.

Our farmers are pleased with the position taken publicly by the Government of Canada and with the fact that the Minister of Agriculture has taken an unequivocal position on the need for the maintenance and clarification of Article XI.