

*Proceedings on Adjournment Motion*

Now, this year, there is no intention to promote or facilitate any production increase, although we are forced to import butter and other dairy products from foreign countries. There is no intention to help our Canadian farmers.

Surplus fluid milk of producers, namely milk of categories 2, 3 and 4, is not eligible for subsidies. Cream producers receive no special subsidy.

What farmers want is a minimum price, not an average national price. In 1966-67, prices varied from \$3.74 to \$4.44, including all federal and provincial subsidies.

Every member of the Ralliement Cr ditiste has asked for a better policy for Canadian farmers, and it is true that the hon. member for Springfield (Mr. Schreyer) has just asked the same thing.

Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Lotbini re (Mr. Choquette) has also asked the same thing. And this afternoon, when I moved the adjournment of the house, in order to discuss the dairy policy, not one government member from the province of Quebec had the courage to stand up to make his views known—including the hon. member for Lotbini re.

Mr. Speaker, last night on the national news, I heard the national president of the C.F.U., Mr. Lionel Sorel, state that members of parliament lag behind with regard to the dairy policy. Now, Mr. Sorel, for his information, if he is not intellectually dishonest, must admit that we took our stand on the side of farmers, of dairy producers in this country, and particularly in the province of Quebec.

Here, in the April 5 issue of *La Terre de Chez Nous*, a farm newspaper, we read:

Under the circumstances, the C.F.U. leaders must come to the conclusion that the members of parliament, particularly those from Quebec, only tried to save their interests so as not to lose face.

And today, Mr. Speaker, we read in *La Presse* statements by Mr. Sorel and Mr. Harvey, president of the Canadian Farmers Federation. Mr. Sorel says:

The farmers will attack the members of parliament in all ridings to make them aware of the farm problem.

Well, here I want to tell Mr. Sorel and Mr. Harvey: We never needed them to become aware of the problems facing the farmers, because I know those problems personally.

Hon. members, my colleagues of the Ralliement Cr ditiste know what those problems are in their respective ridings. We realize

[Mr. Caoutee.]

that hon. members from Montreal do not understand them at all, because they have never seen a cow being milked, but in the rural ridings, Mr. Speaker, we know the problems of the farmer and when we get the opportunity to move a vote of non-confidence, we will not hesitate a single moment and we are ready to face a general election on the specific problem of agriculture in Canada, and particularly in the province of Quebec.

However, as far as the C.F.U. is concerned, we are tired of hearing from people, such as Mr. Lionel Sorel, who have no idea of what is going on in the house. Those people think that a vote of non-confidence can be moved at any time of day. Unable even to understand parliamentary procedure, they start among the farmers rumours to the effect that here, in parliament, we have no feelings, we do not want to assume our responsibilities to the farmers.

There are farmers in my riding of Ville-neuve. There are some also in the next riding of Pontiac-T miscamingue, and I do not hesitate to take a firm stand for the farmers. But I distrust, for instance, some agricultural leaders of the C.F.U. who attempt to stir up the farmers by making representations which prove to be rather a storm in a tea cup. Let those people be honest with their members, and we, as members of parliament, will be honest with the farmers. And when I say honest with the farmers, I do not mean only honest with Messrs. Sorel or Harvey; it means honest with the farmers, the dairy producers of our country and of our province.

That is the stand taken by the Ralliement Cr ditiste, and I ask the government to revise its dairy policy; otherwise, one of these days, it will have to face very soon, as soon as possible, a non-confidence motion with regard to the dairy policy implemented at the present time by the Liberal government in Ottawa.

[*English*]

**Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Mr. Speaker, I know that the hon. member will be kind enough to forgive me for replying in the only language I have a facility with. Had my colleague, the Minister of Agriculture been here tonight he would have used that happy facility in replying that I do not possess. As the hon. member knows, the Minister of Agriculture is attending the meeting of