Agri-bond Program

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

speech. When asked what he thought about the Liberal Budget, he said: "I think it is terrible". When asked what he would do if he were in Government, he said: "If I told you what we would do if we were in Government, they wouldn't elect us." That caution has to be given to the Canadian people. It was published in *Maclean's* Magazine. That is the policy of that Party.

Unfortunately, the Liberals have brought this to pass by failing to deal with the real issues, the collapse of the National Energy Program, and failing to give us some indication of a new policy direction which would be more relevant and effective for Canadians. They have created a situation in this country where the anachronistic policies of the present Official Opposition are going to be on us. That is not just in energy policy, it is across the board in a whole host of social issues. I say to my friends in the Liberal Party that that curse lies in their hands.

That is not the only flaw in this legislation, not the only offensive aspect of it. I wish the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources would pay more attention in this House to those issues in an honest and forthright way. Things do not fail because of Government but because of world circumstances that we did not anticipate. An argument can be made in some aspects for this. The Minister could honestly begin to deal with those questions where the policy was not appropriate and failed and begin to propose new policy directions.

There is tremendous concern about the nuclear fuel cycle. My colleague, the Hon. Member for The Battlefords-Meadow Lake (Mr. Anguish), has been an outstanding spokesperson on this issue, as have the Hon. Member for Skeena (Mr. Fulton) and the Hon. Member for Regina. They have expressed serious concerns along with the United Church and numerous other groups. They have asked for an inquiry into the nuclear fuel cycle. Who is going to be hurt by developing information upon which we can make more effective decisions? Absolutely no one. In fact, a large number of Canadians would be satisfied.

I see that time is running on. I wonder if I might continue at the next sitting of the House.

• (1700)

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Herbert): Order, please. I regret to interrupt the Hon. Member but it being five o'clock, the House will now proceed to the consideration of Private Members' business as listed on today's *Order Paper*.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS— MOTIONS

[English]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Herbert): Shall all orders and items listed under Private Members' Business preceding Order No. 35, be allowed to stand by unanimous consent?

AGRICULTURE

ADVISABILITY OF ESTABLISHING AN AGRI-BOND PROGRAM

Mr. G. M. Gurbin (Bruce-Grey) moved:

That the Standing Committee on Agriculture be empowered to examine the establishment of an Agri-bond Program to provide the present Canadian agriculture industry and young Canadians, who are the nation's future farmers, with adequate funding at reasonable rates, and recommend methods of implementing such a program;

That such examination include the hearing and consideration of the views of interested parties and organizations;

That it be an instruction to the said Committee that it meet forthwith; and

That the Committee submit its report not later than March 31, 1984.

He said: Mr. Speaker, this motion is exactly the same as a motion presented by myself and 10 other Members of Parliament on November 24, 1983. The 10 were, the Hon. Member for Moose Jaw (Mr. Neil), the Hon. Member for Cariboo-Chilcotin (Mr. Greenway), the Hon. Member for Assiniboia (Mr. Gustafson), the Hon. Member for Wetaskawin (Mr. Schellenberger), the Hon. Member for Elgin (Mr. Wise), the Hon. Member for Portage-Marquette (Mr. Mayer), the Hon. Member for Leeds-Grenville (Mrs. Cossitt), the Hon. Member for Oxford (Mr. Halliday), the Hon. Member for Okanagan-Similkameen (Mr. King), and the Hon. Member for Red Deer (Mr. Towers).

It was first introduced prior to the Throne Speech of December 7, 1983, and is introduced again now in an effort to do three things: first, to have the Standing Committee on Agriculture meet because until then it had not met for a long time. Even now, except for some organizational meetings there has not been a full meeting of the Agriculture Committee for several months. It was also an effort to get the Government to produce specific legislation to deal with the serious farm financial crisis. Second, the purpose of the motion is to encourage the Government in the Throne Speech to recognize the importance of a healthy farm economy to economic recovery in Canada through balance of trade payments and industries including co-ops, equipment dealers and manufacturers, food processors and small grocery stores. They all contribute significantly to our food security and the direct and indirect employment of literally one-fifth of our working population or nearly 2 million people. Finally, Mr. Speaker, we hoped that this motion would provide a specific solution that the Government could use as a blueprint and focus to deal with high