

The main deficiency of the present system is that having been created during a period of scarcity, it is inadequate in times of prosperity. That is why Canadians are living in poverty amidst riches.

Mr. Speaker, as everybody knows, the production problem in Canada is not for the farmer nor the factory nor the manufacturer. The only problem is that of distribution of goods and services for human needs, that is for the Canadian consumer. This is the only solution to the problem which, as members of parliament, we must strive to solve without party considerations.

Mr. Speaker, is the present system the solution to a problem of its own creation? Certainly not. It creates problems instead of solving them. It is up to the minister to answer or deny this. The federal government has no funds to help the farmers. The other day, 20,000 farmers came to parliament hill, hoping to go back home with something. But they went home empty-handed, with a mere promise that their case would be studied again by June 10, those people who still had high hopes where there was no hope left. It was in this very house that we heard the member for Nicolet-Yamaska (Mr. Coté) say this: the Quebec farmers are coming here to congratulate the government, not to ask for something, just to congratulate the government. We have seen the kind of congratulations the members of the cabinet got in front of the centre block. The Minister of Forestry and Rural Development (Mr. Sauvé) could not even finish his speech to the 20,000 farmers jammed on parliament hill.

The hon. member for Lotbinière (Mr. Choquette) was not too vocal either on that day, before the 20,000 farmers who assembled on parliament hill.

**Mr. Choquette:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I doubt that the hon. member for Villeneuve interpreted correctly the words of the hon. member for Nicolet-Yamaska (Mr. Côté). In all fairness for the latter, one should say that he did not interpret the farmers' march on parliament as a message of congratulations, but that he simply stated the people should not play politics with the farmers' march, which is what our hon. friend for Villeneuve has been doing, that is he has interpreted the farmers' march from a Créditiste point of view, which is not correct.

**Mr. Caouette:** Mr. Speaker, I had before me the text of the hon. member for Nicolet-Yamaska, but I do not have it any more.

*The Budget—Mr. Caouette*

However, his statement amounted to this: The farmers are not coming here to blame the government; they are coming to thank the government for what it has done for them.

If the hon. member wishes to find the speech of the hon. member for Nicolet-Yamaska, I am ready to let him know where the speech is recorded. He said, what the hon. member for Lotbinière has just mentioned, but be added that the farmers came to thank the government. This remark is contained in the speech that he made to second the address in reply to the speech from the throne.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, the situation can be summed up as follows: the government does not have money for the labour of peace. But it has always plenty for the labour of war, for blood and destruction. The present system is unfair and illogical, and those who promote such a system by voting in its favour or by abstaining from voting are accomplices.

We have just witnessed four by-elections in Quebec and one in Ontario. Thousands of people are so disappointed with politics that they do not even care to vote any more.

Mr. Speaker, for the information of the hon. member for Lotbinière, I just found the statement made by the hon. member for Nicolet-Yamaska where he said, as can be seen on page 28 of the May 9 *Hansard*:

The producers of manufacturing milk will perhaps be coming here, in the national capital, to voice their needs and not do as many may think, that is to criticize the government. On the contrary, farmers are more intelligent than that. They will support this government in its efforts to help them in the face of all other classes of society.

This is the word-for-word statement made by the hon. member for Nicolet-Yamaska. Now, the hon. member for Lotbinière must have realized, in front of the parliament buildings, that the farmers did not necessarily come in order to support the government. On the contrary, they came to claim something from the government, which is not exactly the same thing.

**Mr. Choquette:** Mr. Speaker, there is a group of farmers that really came to support the government, namely to guide the policy of this government.

**Mr. Caouette:** Those who came from my constituency.

**Mr. Choquette:** Now, there were many Créditiste organizers, and I saw many of them.

**Mr. Caouette:** They wanted \$5.10 per hundredweight for manufacturing milk.