Government Orders

I would like to get into that sometime, but it leads into another subject. When I go to my farm and I pick up bearings that I get from the John Deere Company, they will have "Japan" written on them. I go and start up my grain loader and it will have a motor that was made in Japan. I walk up the hill to the House of Commons and I count the cars coming up and I look at the makes and they are Toyota and many makes that are made in Japan, East Germany and other countries.

My own view on this is that some of these countries are going to have to start carrying some of the load of producing food and providing food to people who cannot afford to pay for it, because the farmers on the prairies or in Ontario or Quebec or wherever across this country cannot subsidize the Third World. We cannot do it. It is impossible.

We need an international approach, which the Prime Minister has been taking, which the Minister for International Trade has been taking in international trade, which our Minister of Agriculture, our minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board, our Minister of Finance and so on have been taking.

I would now like to move back to the national scene, the importance of grain handling and co-operation between the rural community and the urban community. We had a good example yesterday. The hon. member sitting behind me here was at that meeting when we met with the chicken producers of B.C. and the turkey producers and, I believe, a representation of the dairy producers.

The whole situation of article XI certainly comes into play here with respect to the GATT. I made the point to that delegation that the best friend it had in B.C. in dealing with this problem at the GATT was the province of Quebec. The province of Quebec in the dairy industry and in the feather industry has the same problems that it has. There is strength in unity, not in separation as some are directing. There are political movements at both ends of this country that would divide the unity of this country.

I made the point to the farmers there that it was most important if they were to have a strong feather/dairy industry in B.C. to have the support of the farmers in Quebec. I made the point by saying: "Let us say this country separated, God forbid, but in 18 months or two

years from now, you could have a much bigger problem than just dealing with article XI of the GATT".

We must recognize the importance of this country working together, both ends of the country, every province, to strengthen agriculture for the benefit of all Canadians. I make the point that we need an understanding of agriculture, of rural Canada and of urban Canada. I think we all agree that at this time it is most important that the grain move down the St. Lawrence Seaway as well as to the west.

I am very, very pleased about the debate that has been introduced today. I am sure that every farmer in Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, B.C., Alberta and right across the country are together in this thing. We are together in this as Canadians for the benefit of Canada. For the benefit of having a strong Canada we must have a strong agriculture and a strong economy.

If you want to look at the example today of what happened in Russia, its agricultural industry went down to the point where it cannot feed themselves. God forbid that that would ever happen in North America, but it is important that we not take things for granted and that food becomes a priority in the mind.

I should not get off on this subject because it is a pet theme of mine, as many of you know. Food is not a priority in the world today but it should be. It is one of the basic human rights, but I believe that there is a consciousness today across this country and a consciousness this fall that may bring about some rethinking in political circles all around the world that says every person has a right to eat, but you cannot have that food unless you have got a producer out there who can produce that food. We need to work together, rural and urban, all Canadians, to build a stronger industry, to build a stronger Canada, for truly this country has been an example of a country in which we do not know shortage.

I want to throw this in. I talked to a doctor from Austria. I asked him the question on subsidies. He said, very simply: "You North Americans"—he qualified us all as North Americans—"don't understand hunger. In my lifetime I have seen hunger three times. You do not have an appreciation for food or the priority of it that you ought to have".