will not be followed. It is the government's job to bring in legislation, and the job of the opposition to criticize it. In fact, everybody in Canada has been given the opportunity to criticize and comment on the white paper on tax reform. I hope the hon. member will have constructive criticism to offer to the committee.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hour appointed for the consideration of private members' business having expired, I do now leave the chair until eight o'clock p.m.

At six o'clock the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

FARM PRODUCTS MARKETING AGENCIES BILL

ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL MARKETING COUNCIL AND AGENCIES

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Olson that Bill C-197, to establish the National Farm Products Marketing Council and to authorize the establishment of national marketing agencies for farm products, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Agriculture.

Mr. Jerry Pringle (Fraser Valley East): Mr. Speaker, just before the witching hour set aside for private members' business, I was discussing the success, work and involvement of various marketing boards throughout Canada. I was somewhat pleased with the speech delivered by my hon. friend from Kent-Essex (Mr. Danforth) who, while seeming to disagree with the most vital requisite of programming and planning involved in marketing boards and questions relating to supply and management, nevertheless agrees, I feel, that producers must be in a position to plan their programs.

I was also interested in the remarks of the hon. member for Roberval (Mr. Gauthier) who spoke about some of the problems in Quebec. It is interesting to note that the dairy industry there is considering adopting a program which would effectively reduce surplus milk production in Quebec. I hope this type of thinking will spill over into other agricultural endeavours in Quebec which are experiencing very heavy surpluses in domestic and other markets. We hope their endeavours will be successful. I hope—this may not be the right term to use—that a somewhat different position will be created with regard to broiler prices across Canada.

In speaking about marketing boards of British Columbia previously, I wanted to state categorically that I was not referring to hypothetical examples. I was making a report from actual experience. For many years past various commodity groups in British Columbia have brought a measure of stability unequalled anywhere in Canada. A great deal of work has been done in our dairy industry. While we all agree that this is a very complex problem, it is interesting to note that the cost to the taxpayer in that province for the subsidy payments for manufacturing milk have been somewhat less than $1 million. They operate so as to take care of their fluid milk but import many of the products developed from manufacturing milk from other provinces.

If Your Honour will permit a reference to the broiler industry, may I point out that only twice during the past eight years has that industry suffered from depressed wholesale markets. On both occasions secondary industry processors pressured the broiler board into excessive quotas. The experience was very educational for them and I doubt if the processors will permit a repeat performance.

A frequent argument of the uninformed and inexperienced centres around the mistaken conclusion that supply management programs tend to stifle competition. The opposite is true. Indiscriminate production is usually coupled with indiscriminate diversification. Of course, in this way a farmer can swing from commodity to commodity as the bottom falls out of the markets. Supply management programs tend to lean toward more specialization. We therefore find commodity groups competing with each other for the consumer's dollar.

I feel this is a very important point that ought to be considered by all those now endeavouring to examine Bill C-197. It will not create monopolies if those in the various individual commodity groups are prepared to establish programs, plans and agencies so as to be in direct competition with those in other commodity groups. Turkey men will compete with broiler operators. The hog people are continually striving for a higher spot on the volume scale, as opposed to beef and poultry operators. The egg industry is also in there