

Supply

who trusted you and who are now expecting results, and rightly so.

[*English*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Are there questions or comments? The Hon. Member for Algoma (Mr. Foster).

Mr. Foster: Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate the Hon. Member for Richmond-Wolfe (Mr. Tardif). He really outlined in graphic detail the impact of the Government's lack of determination and commitment on agriculture, especially with respect to his home province, Quebec. I would like to ask the Hon. Member for a couple of clarifications.

In listening to the Hon. Member I thought I heard him mention that the Minister of Public Works (Mr. La Salle) actually signed a cheque for \$13 million to the hog producers of Quebec and then reneged. Can the Hon. Member tell me if that is the case or not?

Yesterday in the House the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Wise) said that Ministers of Agriculture of four producing provinces, I believe, and he were considering a red meat stabilization program with respect to hogs and beef. I am interested to know what the impact would be on agriculture in Quebec if that province were not able to participate in the program.

Will the Hon. Member comment on the \$50 million cut-back in the budget of the Department of Agriculture if those

funds are to be taken out of the dairy subsidy? What impact would that have on the Province of Quebec?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. member for Richmond-Wolfe for a quick answer.

Mr. Tardif: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I should like the House to know that my colleague the Hon. Member for Saint-Denis (Mr. Prud'homme) also wanted to take part in this debate, but will be unable to rise because it is already very late. I now come to the question.

The major concern or one of the major concerns was that, in the short term, hog producers wanted to get the \$13 million they were entitled to in view of the very bad marked situation. Indeed, they had been deprived of that amount by the previous administration, and on that side of the House a firm, irrevocable and unequivocal commitment had been made to pay that amount of \$13 million; Mr. La Salle went as far as putting his signature on a symbolic check which has never been honoured, and the producers are still waiting for those \$13 million.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. It being 5 o'clock p.m., it is my duty to inform the House that proceedings on the motion are expired in accordance with Standing Order 63(11).

Accordingly, this House stands adjourned until Monday at 11 o'clock a.m. pursuant to Standing Order 3(1).

At 5 p.m. the House adjourned.
