These matters are proceeding. It takes the two Governments to reach a satisfactory adjustment program, which we hope will be accomplished. We are doing our share.

**Ms. Copps:** Bull.

**Mr. Crosbie:** We are taking the initiative and we hope a generous and adequate program will come out of the consultations between these two Governments.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE—TAX QUERY

**Mr. Maurice Foster (Algoma):** Mr. Speaker, it is clear that the Government does not know what it is doing on this adjustment program. The Minister of Agriculture admitted last week that he did not even know whether the adjustment program would be subject to income tax. That is a pretty important issue for these producers.

More important, the producers in Niagara want to know if the Government is prepared to give at least the $156 million of assistance that was forecast to be their losses to cover even half which is forecast to be taken out of the industry, plus assistance for the other half. Will the Minister give a commitment that at least $156 million will be provided to take 11,000 acres out of production and state whether or not that assistance will be taxable? Will he give at least that amount of information today?

**Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister for International Trade):** Mr. Speaker, I would only hope that the hon. gentleman would make some representations to the Government of Ontario—

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Gauthier:** Pass the buck.

**Mr. Foster:** Whose trade deal is this?

**Ms. Copps:** It is your trade deal.

**Mr. Crosbie:** —a government to which he is very close, to encourage that Government to do the right thing and be as generous in this approach as the Government of Canada.

**Mr. Foster:** It is your trade deal.

**Mr. Crosbie:** The basic problems afflicting the Ontario grape industry are as a result of the GATT panel report—

**Mr. Foster:** That is bull.

**Mr. Crosbie:** —that found provincial liquor board practices to be unfair trade under international trade rules.

**Ms. Copps:** Sour grapes, Crosbie.

**Mr. Crosbie:** It is the GATT approach that the Official Opposition favours. That is where the main problem arises.

**Ms. Copps:** That is totally false.

**Mr. Crosbie:** We are prepared to do our share, and a very generous share, of assisting the Ontario industry. We need the help and assistance of the Ontario Government. Put some pressure on the Ontario Government.

**Mr. Foster:** That is totally false. The free trade deal went out first.

**Some Hon. Members:** Sit down.

**Mr. McDermid:** Get your facts straight.

**Ms. Copps:** Stop spreading manure.

**Mr. Speaker:** I might just say quietly that the Hon. Member for Algoma will undoubtedly have another occasion to pursue this matter, along with his colleagues. The Hon. Member for Winnipeg—Birds Hill.

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## REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION

QUEBEC AND MANITOBA ALUMINUM SMELTER PROJECTS

**Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg—Birds Hill):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister for Regional Industrial Expansion. How can he claim with any degree of intellectual and political honesty that the Government is creating a level playing field when the Prime Minister, according to the quote which the Minister himself read to the House, has agreed to promote Sept-Iles as the site of an aluminum smelter? Does the Minister believe that investors who, he claims, will make the final decision, exist in a vacuum? Does he think that they do not read the papers or pay attention to the House of Commons? Does he think they will not notice that the Prime Minister has agreed to promote a certain location? Is that what he calls a level playing field?

• (1430)

**Hon. Robert de Cotret (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion and Minister of State for Science and Technology):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to be very, very clear on this issue.

**Some Hon. Members:** We would like you to, too.

**Mr. de Cotret:** We will give equal consideration to a request that could come for a smelter in Manitoba and one that could come for a smelter in Quebec. I would like to make it very clear that these are not competing projects. I do not know where the Hon. Members opposite got that idea.

We will give equal consideration, fair consideration, to both projects and both projects could go ahead.

I really fail to see the point of the argument which the Hon. Member is trying to raise, Mr. Speaker. It will be a level playing field and both could go ahead.