

Inflation

15, or 20 per cent is maintained in some areas. Is that not a scandal, Mr. Speaker?

Why tolerate such things when the solutions are there? If we have the raw materials, the technology, the manpower needed, what is stopping us from accomplishing anything? If it is only a financing matter, what is stopping us from issuing our own credits which would be required for the developments which would prove adequate?

Mr. Speaker, when the motion stipulates that we blame the government, I do not think that it can be said that we are doing petty politics, that we are once again putting forward the Social Credit remedies, that we are always putting forward the same solution, that is the Bank of Canada, the "money press". Mr. Speaker, we have collected evidence that this government, owing foremost to its stability secured by its recent majority, is playing politics.

Recently we had occasion to find out how our good friends opposite, specially those from Quebec, are inconsistent with themselves and how in their parliamentary work they only play politics. Mr. Speaker, I saw—

An hon. Member: We are here.

An hon. Member: We are here regularly.

Mr. Matte: Wait a minute, you will soon know what it is all about. An article published today in *Le Devoir* was entitled:

Quebec caucus convince Whelan to restore milk subsidy.

Here is the first paragraph:

The Quebec federal Liberal caucus decided yesterday to support the milk processors' demands that the Trudeau government increase the support price from \$10.02 to \$11.60 per hundredweight of milk delivered to the plant.

Mr. Speaker, last Monday in the House I moved the following motion under Standing Order 43, and I quote:

Considering the precarious situation of Quebec industrial milk producers and the absolute necessity of that industry, and in view of the decreasing number of producers and the present difficulty to have adequate relief, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Abitibi (Mr. Laprise):

That the House unanimously recommend to the Minister of Agriculture to seriously consider the request of Quebec milk producers to get a minimum price of \$11.60 per hundredweight of industrial milk.

It is the same thing, Mr. Speaker. What happened? Of course, I was there, and I presented the motion. A great many "nos" were heard from Quebec Liberal members not to have the motion presented. The same day, those hon. members met a FPU delegation and told them they would ask the minister to apply that measure. Mr. Speaker, if that is not playing politics, it is childish indecency. I think it is time—

Mr. Pinard: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

Mr. Matte: I think it is time people realize that a majority government abuses its powers and makes fun of people. When you tell farmers that you are going to ask the minister to grant you this or that, and when in the House instead of saying yes when it is time you say no, you are just making fun of people. I think it is a totally illogical attitude.

[Mr. Matte.]

Mr. Pinard: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. The hon. member for Drummond on a question of privilege.

Mr. Pinard: Mr. Speaker, I hear the hon. member opposite blaming Quebec Liberal members for objecting last Monday to a motion put forward under Standing Order 43 about dairy producers and their claims.

I agree that his remarks respecting the needs of dairy producers are justified, but what I cannot accept is the unfair way in which he blames Quebec Liberal members, since that very day we were meeting with representatives of the APU. As far as I am concerned, I was having discussions with 400 dairy producers in my constituency, and in the evening I met with provincial representatives of the APU. Considering the circumstances, I think it is unfair to blame Quebec Liberal members for their lack of interest—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. I have to remind the hon. member for Drummond that although the point he is making may be interesting, according to the proceedings of the House, he raised a question of debate, so he just should take part in the debate later and possibly controvert the arguments of the hon. member.

Mr. Matte: Mr. Speaker, we have other examples. A few weeks ago, my colleague the hon. member for Rimouski (Mr. Allard) put forward a motion to provide for a compensated discount, precisely with respect to milk. At that time, for some reason, probably through an oversight of our good friends opposite, the motion was allowed by Your Honour, and the vote was called for. Then at last we could see those who did not want a real discount to be passed on to the consumers.

Milk producers should be here in this house. They should have been here last Monday. I presented a motion and I heard again some "non". They were not "nos". Thus, the "non" were from Quebec members. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, without wishing to make any political criticism, it seems obvious that members do not unfortunately take their responsibility seriously. How can one say "oui" outside the House and "non" inside? I hope the Minister of Agriculture will finally show some logic in this situation.

Mr. Speaker, I know that the time allotted to me has almost expired. I should like to conclude by saying that the motion we presented is important and that it deserves the attention of the House. Our party may not be composed of many members but we do not have any reserved rights either on our solutions and we are ready to cooperate with this government to enable it to apply them. One wishes that one would not hear any more during election campaigns, as I heard in my constituency, the following words: "We take everything that is good in the Social Credit Party and apply it." We know that whenever we make proposals in this House, members seem to disregard them, make them look ridiculous and fail to realize that we are serious and want to contribute to the well-being of all Canadians.