

At one time I represented all the white bean farmers in the Province of Ontario, and I do know how they feel about plant breeders' legislation.

White beans are like little white pearls. They are the greatest product one could ever get hold of. They are an exportable product. In 1972, 20 per cent of our white beans were exported. By the year 1980, 80 per cent of our beans were exported at no sacrifice to human consumption. This happened because we were leaders and because we had varieties acceptable throughout the world. It is one thing to grow beans, but quite another to have varieties that are acceptable with good cooking qualities and storing qualities.

We must never forget that farmers are intelligent customers. Farmers are businessmen. Farmers have to carefully consider factors such as input yield, and ratios. They look at all those things when they look at what varieties they are going to choose from. They do have many varieties to choose from. Let us never underestimate farmers, because they do make intelligent decisions.

As a result, farm organizations are supporting this Bill in large numbers. Groups such as the Western Canadian Wheat Growers, the Canadian Grains Council, Canadian Nursery Trades Association, United Grain Growers, Canadian Seed Growers Association, Canadian Ornamental Plant Foundation, and one close to my heart, the Ontario Bean Producers Marketing Board, to name only a few are supporting this Bill.

When my hon. friend is helping with the hay, we will give him a good feed of beans.

**Mr. Milliken:** Beans are good for the heart.

**Mr. Cardiff:** All those people feel that this Bill will benefit agriculture and benefit Canada. The Hon. Member for Northumberland (Mrs. Stewart) has suggested that this is not enough, that we must benefit the Third World as well. Like all Hon. Members, I too wish that there were easy solutions for the social and economic problems facing the developing world. Even if all Members of the House devoted all their time and energies to the issue, we could not solve all the problems. Why should we expect Bill C-15 to solve all those problems? Plant breeders' rights are designed to address issues in our country and in our dealings with our major trading partners.

### *Plant Breeders' Rights*

**Mr. Milliken:** It's a kowtow to the U.S.

**Mr. Cardiff:** While we are doing that, it strengthens the viability of our farms and our agriculture industry in this country. Who could argue against strengthening the opportunities for agriculture? In fact, the difference between our northern climate and the tropics prohibits effective seed trade with the Third World. Even if a distribution system were in place, and the equipment was there, places such as Uganda and Malaysia would still not become major markets.

However, our Government is concerned about their food resources, and to ensure that varieties are developed for their countries, we offer them our fiscal and technical support. CIDA contributed \$18,250,000 in 1988 to 17 different research institutes specializing in developing agriculture. That is a lot of money. There are also a significant number of bilateral agreements which offer technical advice or specific services between our country and less developed ones. The International Development Research Council has also funded seed projects worth almost \$3 million in 1988.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** In accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 57, it is my duty at this time—

**Mr. MacWilliam:** Point of order, Mr. Speaker.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** There is no point of order. It is one o'clock.

In accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 57, at this time it is my duty to interrupt the proceedings and put forthwith all questions necessary to dispose of the second reading stage of the Bill now before the House.

Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** No.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** All those in favour of the motion will please say yea.

**Some Hon. Members:** Yea.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** All those opposed will please say nay.

**Some Hon. Members:** Nay.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** In my opinion, the yeas have it.

*And more than five Members having risen:*