

There is an increase there. So, we give with one hand and take back with the other, while giving less money from year to year. For instance, in 1968, \$36.7 million were paid Quebec producers and in 1970, only \$23.1 million, which represents a \$13.6 million decrease over a short period, while we tolerate the government in power.

Employees in certain regional offices feel that the farmers would be well advised to sacrifice some personal freedom to protect their interests. However, I do not agree with that. If one must give up one's liberty to live decently in as rich a country as Canada, our government must be sadly lacking.

Therefore, I shall vote against this bill if it is not amended properly with a view to respecting the freedom of the farmers. We are fed up with a regime in which one must be tied like a dog to survive. It is high time someone cut the rope used to tie up the farmers.

Mr. Florian Côté (Richelieu): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Bécharde): The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Agriculture on a point of order.

Mr. Côté (Richelieu): Mr. Speaker, it may be that I did not understand clearly but the hon. member for Richmond (Mr. Beaudoin) said about clause 2 that a marketing plan may ensure marketing, regulate sales.

As for me, I read:

(e) "marketing plan" means...

I do not know whether my interpretation is wrong or if I misunderstood what was read but if the hon. member really read that, the nature of the bill is completely altered. Could the hon. member repeat what he has in his notes? That would elucidate the matter for me, because it is very important.

Mr. Beaudoin: Mr. Speaker, does this have to do with clause 1?

Mr. Côté (Richelieu): Mr. Speaker, it is about clause 2(e).

Mr. Beaudoin: Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to tell the parliamentary secretary that I said "may", but I think I should have read "means".

Mr. Côté (Richelieu): Indeed, Mr. Speaker.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Bécharde): Order. I think it proper to remind hon. members that

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on second reading it is forbidden to consider a bill clause by clause and to refer to it as the hon. member for Richmond did in the course of his speech. Concerning this, I should like to quote part of citation 381 in *Beauchesne's Parliamentary Rules and Forms*, 4th edition:

On the motion for the second reading, it is out of order to discuss the clauses of the bill.

The appropriate stage for the discussion of a bill clause by clause is the committee stage and not second reading.

The hon. member for Joliette.

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I am happy—

Mr. Beaudoin: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Bécharde): Order. The hon. member for Richmond on a point of order.

Mr. Beaudoin: I rise to a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

I thank you for having called me to order. However, I should like to say that I do not want to criticize application forms. Nevertheless it is a rewarding thing to trace something back to its origin, so as to know how to begin a discussion in committee.

• (4:20 p.m.)

Mr. La Salle: Mr. Speaker, may I be allowed to take a few minutes of the time of the House to express a number of opinions on this undoubtedly questionable and questioned bill, and also on the amendment introduced by a member of our group.

Bill C-197, as all members are already aware, is a very important bill. There is no need for me to say that in principle, we are in favour of the establishment of a marketing agency for farm products. We are certainly in favour of changes likely to bring about improvements by increasing the income of all Canadian farmers. On the other hand, it seems to me that the type of representation provided for within this agency whose members will be appointed by the government is not clear enough.

Several members have emphasized the importance of having the producers represented. I agree with them that this is not only desirable but necessary in the case of an agency entrusted with such heavy responsibilities.

This bill, however, does not say who is going to be appointed. How can we be sure