Excise Tax Act

that the Act will now clarify some of the procedures which breed associations will use to become official associations. The rules have been clarified on how they go about providing registration for their particular breed, how they establish criteria for a breed, and how they maintain those standards throughout the existence of the breed. In the past, we depended heavily on the Canadian Livestock Records Corporation to maintain the records for most official breeds. This Bill will permit, with Ministerial approval, some variations from that. That was a concern to the associations using the Canadian Livestock Records Corporation.

• (1540)

I believe that this change was permitted on the basis of it being an experiment which we would hope the Minister would monitor very closely. I point out that the proposed law does not allow any breed association to leave the Canadian Livestock Records Corporation willy-nilly. Associations must do so with the permission of the Minister and will require a reason. I presume the Minister will take great care in deciding on these issues so that he does not in fact undermine the credibility of the Canadian Livestock Records Corporation.

Under this Bill, as under its predecessor, it is possible for breeds to evolve and for new breeds to be created. Today, March 28, is a good day to commend the breeders at Agriculture Canada for the 20-year project that has just recently come to fruition. The creation of three new breeds of sheep was announced over the weekend, and the creation of a new breed is not something that happens very often in Canada.

The Lacombe hog was developed nearly 20 years ago through the efforts of Agriculture Canada at Lacombe, Alberta. The Hays Converter, an evolving breed rather than a new breed, was initiated by the elder Senator Hays and has been registered as a breed for 15 or 20 years. There are now three new distinct breeds of Canadian sheep.

The Canadian Arcott was developed for use as a provider of sires. It has a superior growth rate and a lean meat yield. Twenty-eight per cent of its genetic makeup comes from the Ile de France breed and the rest originates from existing breeds which are basically British breeds. The Outaouais Arcott and the Rideau Arcott are two sister breeds, but they are distinct breeds. They are intended to be used as prolific dams. They have an average litter size of 2.5 to 2.6 lambs per birthing. This is a highly prolific breed. The Outaouais Arcott is made up of about 49 per cent Finnish Landrace. Sheep breeders will know that they are a very prolific breed. The Rideau Arcott contains 40 per cent Finnish Landrace and 14 per cent East Friesian.

I think it is suitable, when talking about the Animal Pedigree Act, to give some recognition to these three new breeds of sheep. It is a fine coincidence that the announcement of these new breeds should come at the same time the new Bill goes through the House. This will continue the fine work and reputation Canada has always maintained as a consistent place

to register new breeds and set up monitoring agencies such as the Canadian Livestock Records Corporation. This will ensure that genetics and registration procedures do meet international requirements so that we will be able to engage in international trade with the breeding stock we produce on Canadian farms.

Motion agreed to, Bill read the third time and passed.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 66, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the Hon. Member for Broadview—Greenwood (Ms. McDonald)—Environmental Affairs—Presence of dioxins in Miramichi River—Government position/Request for assurance adequate measures will be taken; the Hon. Member for Fundy—Royal (Mr. Corbett)—Canada Post Corporation—Closure of rural post offices—Provision of alternate services; the Hon. Member for Regina East (Mr. de Jong)—National Revenue—Principal Group bankruptcy—Payment of taxes by investors/Request that demands for payment of taxes be stopped.

[Translation]

EXCISE TAX ACT

MEASURE TO AMEND

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Wilson: That Bill C-117, an Act to amend the Excise Tax Act and the Excise Act, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs.

Mr. John Parry (Kenora—Rainy River): When the House recessed for lunch at 1 p.m., Mr. Speaker, I was criticizing the Government for its policies and their impact especially on remote areas of Canada. So I will continue with my comments on the transportation costs situation, in view of the fact that any tax increase on gas will be reflected by higher costs.

[English]

A sort of geared relationship occurs when this happens because the price of everything bought in a northern or remote area is influenced by transportation costs. Therefore, when fuel goes up, everything goes up. That is an effect which has never been fully investigated or quantified by the Government.

There are other items of a technical nature in this Bill as there always are in a measure that deals with excise tax. I think it is worth while instancing some of the effects these will have on Canadians. Of course, the shift of the tax on motor