

being phased out over a ten-year period. Those people say that that is not right. We should not have signed the deal on that basis. That is an example of where we did not get everything we asked for and would have liked to have had. They are right, it would have been better to phase out our transportation assistance over the same ten-year period.

However, if you look at the numbers you will find that after three years we are net beneficiaries so that we have the next seven years we enjoy a net gain. In fact, from the figures I have, the Canola industry stands to benefit to the tune of \$25 million over that ten years. Even though it is not a perfect deal, you can see that on balance we are better to have the arrangement than to be without it.

We firmly and freely admit, up front, that it is not a perfect deal, but it is much better to do those kinds of things with that agreement than not to have it and face the possibility of the Americans using one of the sections of their Agriculture Adjustment Act to restrict us even more.

The Hon. Liberal Member for Willowdale (Mr. Peterson) talked about planning. We are going to have to plan. We agree with him. Certainly one of the things we must have when we plan is certainty. If we are to sell into a market, one of the things that gives us certainty is a set of rules. That is what this arrangement is. He asked: "How are we going to get our own agenda if we do not have certainty of access?" This agreement provides us with much more certainty of access than we would have without it.

The Opposition says we cannot compete. The Americans have a longer growing season than we do. They are able to produce two crops a year. Their yield per acre is higher than ours. In some cases they are right but understand that because of our climate and because of the shorter growing season, we have long days and cool nights during the summer which allow us to produce a different and we like to think a higher quality product. It is for that precise reason that Canola is in demand in the U.S. We should not be fooled by people who say that we are uncompetitive because of our northern climate. It is exactly the opposite.

We produce probably the highest quality milling wheat in the world. Last year the Americans bought almost one million tonnes of wheat from Canada. I understand, as well, that last year the U.S. was the largest wheat exporter in the world. It exported over 40 million tonnes. Why would they buy from Canada at the

same time that they are exporting 40 million tonnes? Not because we are good fellows and they want to do us a favour, they bought it from us because we produce a high quality product.

If you read the agreement it provides that we shall have more certainty of access to that market. That gives us a chance to plan. It gives us a chance to invest for a more certain return over a long period of time.

The Opposition has said that the U.S. will put our vegetable growers out of business. Again, do not be fooled by that. People should know that there are substantial food processing industries in Wisconsin, Michigan, and New York State. You would think if anyone was going to put those three states out of business it would be California. Look on the map. Compare the latitude of southern Ontario to that of Wisconsin. It is roughly the same. In fact, southern Ontario is farther south than the northern parts of Wisconsin. You want to know something? Some 25 per cent of the canned vegetables in the U.S. come from Wisconsin. That does not mean we are going to have any kind of guarantees in that market, but it sure tells you that with a better set of rules we will have more certainty of access.

We did not elect any Members from Prince Edward Island. That province is well known for growing potatoes. I come from Manitoba and we like to think we produce some pretty high quality potatoes. We do. Yet, I think it is fair to say that P.E.I. has a reputation for producing probably the highest quality potatoes in Canada. I visited the province during the election campaign and went into the Cavendish Farms processing plant. They told me that 30 per cent of their production went to the U.S. They want the trade agreement because it gives them more certainty of access to that market. Look at the map again and figure out how far it is from Charlottetown to New York and then compare that with the distance from Charlottetown to Toronto. Look at the population down there and the tremendous potential that represents for a high quality product to be processed here and sold in the U.S.

If you look at the value added side of agriculture, in percentage terms Prince Edward Island has the most value added agricultural sector in Canada. That means investment, jobs, transportation. If you are in Prince Edward Island and produce a high quality product, which they do, and you have a large market closer than Toronto, the largest market in Canada; if you have a market in the U.S. which is larger than the biggest market in Canada and you are closer to that U.S.