

thought we might use this resumption of debate to put on the Table amendments which we consider from each of our own groups to be of importance and of significance in improving the Bill and therefore ensuring that we have the right to debate and ultimately vote upon such proposals.

On behalf of the Government I would like to present a couple of key amendments and I would do so by indicating that if Members of the Opposition also wish to present amendments that they would like to have debated, or would like to have on the Order Paper, then on behalf of the Government I would certainly be prepared to provide to them the same courtesy if they would also provide consent to the amendments that I am prepared to bring forward.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. For amendments to be considered at this stage, unanimous consent would be required.

Mr. Nielsen: Let us hear the proposals before we seek consent, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Deans: Mr. Speaker, I would ask that the Minister put forward his suggested revisions one at a time and we could deal with them individually.

Mr. Axworthy: Mr. Speaker, I am quite prepared to accede to both those requests. I had intended to. The first one is to bring forward for consideration by the House an amended version of what is now called "the safety net proposal". Members will recall that previously we had proposed a safety net to protect or provide assurance for farmers against an increase in their costs in relation to grain prices. That was ruled out of order by the Chair. I would now like to move that:

Bill C-155 be amended by striking out the heading "Part IV," preceding Clause 59 and substituting the following—

Then follows a new Part IV. It is a very lengthy amendment running to some two pages. I have submitted copies to the critics of the Opposition. Rather than reading the entire amendment, if they would allow me, I would précis the contents.

● (1520)

What we are proposing is a safety net brought in over a graduated period, beginning at a 4 per cent level in 1984, 5 per cent in 1985, 8 per cent in 1986, 9 per cent in 1987 and 10 per cent from 1988 onwards. The safety net previously proposed of a flat 10 per cent would start at 4 per cent on the implementation of the legislation on January 1. We believe that would provide immediate protection for farmers against any change in the price-cost ratio. I am prepared to read the whole amendment but Hon. Members have copies.

Contingent upon that is a requirement that a consequential amendment be moved as follows:

That Bill C-155 be amended in Clause 37 by striking out lines 37 to 43 at page 19 and substituting the following therefor:

"(a) the estimated government commitment less an amount equal to the CN adjustment in respect of that crop year, plus or minus the total of the interim adjustment for the current crop year and the final adjustment for the

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preceding crop year, plus the shipper share limitation adjustment for the preceding calendar year, as determined under Part IV, by".—

I will provide copies of that as well. I think Hon. Members will see that it simply follows upon the first amendment that I proposed.

Mr. Deans: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. In order that this make sense to anyone who wants to read it some time in the future, I wonder if the Minister would be good enough to put his amended safety net proposal on the record. It is two pages long but I think it is important that we have things in proper order so that they can be seen by anyone who may want to read them. I know that some Hon. Members have had the opportunity to look over the proposals because they were provided to us and we are grateful for that.

In the interests of completing the debate, however, I think it is important that the Minister put his amendment, get unanimous consent, then put his further amendment and get unanimous consent for that. In that way we would be quite clear on the process that was followed.

Mr. Mazankowski: We would have no objection to that. We are cutting into debating time, however, and we are under strict limitation of debate. The motion the Minister refers to has been submitted to the Table and I assume it will find its way into the official proceedings. This happened on a previous occasion when the Minister rose to submit a similar amendment in a somewhat modified form. It found its way into the official record of proceedings.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Chair has a suggestion to make at this point. Perhaps the Hon. Minister could table copies of the amendments he seeks to introduce and some time later this afternoon they could be moved. It might avoid difficulties if the amendments were tabled and Hon. Members had a chance to look at them.

Mr. Mazankowski: Further to that point of order, Mr. Speaker, if we have to await a decision on this, I would rather that the Minister read the motion into the record. Then we could dispose of it as the House Leader for the NDP has suggested.

Mr. Axworthy: Following on that, Mr. Speaker, may I ask if Hon. Members would be prepared to give unanimous consent that I move the consequential amendment I just moved to Clause 37?

Mr. Huntington: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. We have a narrative on the original amendment which I found very helpful. The consequential amendment is very detailed and I would like to have a narrative on that from the Minister.

Mr. Pinard: Mr. Speaker, what we are seeking at this point is not consent to debate any amendment but merely consent to allow these amendments to be put on the Order Paper. If we have time we will debate them and vote on them.

What the Minister is seeking is unanimous consent to dispense with giving notice to put the amendments he is