

*Business of the House***AGRICULTURE**

Hon. Ralph Ferguson (Lambton—Middlesex): Madam Speaker, this week the Government of France made some concessions relating to the oilseeds production that have been regarded as a major breakthrough in GATT negotiations.

Recently a very well informed appointed member of the other place stated that a GATT agreement would be forthcoming from the G-7 summit meeting in Tokyo in July. This same Tory senator stated that we will see the demise of marketing boards in Canada and that they will be replaced by tariffication.

• (1500)

Will the government tell us when it changed its position? Why is it changing its position? Why is it giving up on article 11(2)(c) when the United States is moving toward a system of planned production in its dairy industry?

Hon. Michael Wilson (Minister of Industry, Science and Technology and Minister for International Trade): Madam Speaker, we have not changed the position. The position remains the same as it has always been, the unified position on Canadian agriculture that has been supported by all sides of the agriculture sector. That is to protect the marketing boards system and to seek a strengthening clarification of article 11(2)(c).

My hon. friend is quite aware of that position and I know that he supports it as well.

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TRANSFER PAYMENTS

Hon. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton—Melville): Madam Speaker, my question is for the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance.

Yesterday the Minister of the Environment in his capacity as a leadership candidate said that he would like to cut some \$8 billion from transfer payments to the provinces which is contrary to what the Minister of Finance has said from time to time.

I know that the Minister of National Defence has said that the Minister of the Environment has never had a substantive portfolio in this government. In spite of that,

does the Minister of Finance want to get up in the House and repudiate the Minister of the Environment, stand by his budget and not—

Madam Deputy Speaker: The hon. member who is an experienced member knows that this is not a receivable question.

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[*Translation*]

GUN CONTROL

Mr. Guy Saint-Julien (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Justice. In Nova Scotia, the Liberal government wants to exempt gun clubs in the province from Bill C-17 by allowing target practice with para-military and semi-automatic firearms with large-capacity cartridge magazines. These are dangerous weapons, however.

My question is this: could the minister explain why the Liberal government of Nova Scotia issues exemptions in violation of the Criminal Code?

Hon. Pierre Blais (Minister of Justice, Attorney General of Canada and Minister of State (Agriculture)): Madam Speaker, the hon. member may recall that last year, Parliament delegated authority for designating and identifying shooting competitions to the attorneys general of the provinces. It is therefore up to the provinces to make such identification.

I hope there will be some form of standardization in the way this is done. I know that Nova Scotia's decision has been criticized. I will monitor this very closely with my officials. I am waiting to see how the other provinces will react as well, but I am monitoring the situation.

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[*English*]

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**WEEKLY STATEMENT**

Mr. David Dingwall (Cape Breton—East Richmond): Madam Speaker, I want to ask the government House leader to confirm the business for the remaining part of today, which I understand will be on Bill C-126, and whether or not we will be proceeding to Bill C-103 and thereafter Bill C-106. Can he confirm that.