

*Farm Products Marketing Agencies Bill*

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel):** Order. The Chair finds it difficult to allow the hon. member to use the pretence of a question of privilege to ask a question. He could have asked the hon. member for Compton if he would accept a question when he was making his speech but now that the hon. member has concluded his speech and the Chair is about to recognize another hon. member, I do not think that the pretence of a question of privilege could be used to add to what has already been said. I am quite prepared to allow a question with the consent of the House and the hon. member for Compton.

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Latulippe:** Agreed.

**Mr. Roy (Laval):** My question is this: are there other alternatives to put some order in production? As a matter of fact, it seems that the producers themselves are calling for this legislation because the prices for agricultural products are too low. They are below the cost of production. I think the hon. member for Compton understands the problem since he objected to new licenses being issued for cable television programs in the city of Compton. He also objected to other furniture manufacturers coming down to the city of Compton to protect his own business. So it seems to me the farmers also have the right to protect their investments—

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel):** Order. The hon. member may ask a question but he may not make a speech at this time.

**Mr. Latulippe:** Mr. Speaker, in reply to the remarks made by the hon. member, I will say to him that we can solve the problem of consumption through consumption. It is consumption which regulates production. So if we want production to work we must organize consumption accordingly. We must have balance between the two.

The hon. member said that I had refused certain things because they would be detrimental to my business. I never said that. I will tell the hon. member that this is a sheer lie.

**Mr. Léopold Corriveau (Frontenac):** Mr. Speaker, I feel compelled this afternoon to comment on a bill which is also important to the Frontenac riding where 50 per cent of the population are farmers and 50 per cent workers.

I would like to reply to the hon. member for Compton who rightly said that Canadian farmers are now facing a problem. That is why this government is trying to pass a bill that would help all the farmers in Canada. It wants to provide them with a tool which will allow them to get out of their present stagnation. The government does not wish to provide them with a legislation which would serve the interests of some farmers in a particular area or province, but the interests of all the farmers in Canada.

When we hear in our ridings that farmers are in a predicament, it does not—

**Mr. Latulippe:** Who placed them in that predicament?

**Mr. Corriveau:** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for Compton indicates this afternoon that he does not wish to provide the farmers with the tool which they need to overcome their present situation. He takes to task the hon. member for Richelieu (Mr. Côté) because he is not a

farmer; I think that he is probably more of a farmer than many of us.

• (5:00 p.m.)

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I think that I should add that what the government now wants is precisely to put some order in Canadian agriculture, and the only way to do that is to establish a national marketing agency, so that marketing will not remain at the regional or provincial levels. The only way to enable farmers, especially small ones, to keep their farm is to give them the necessary tools to fight those who are trying to achieve agricultural integration.

I do not think that at the present time, farmers can complain about the Canadian Dairy Commission. Indeed, that Commission is operating at the national level and all farmers seem satisfied.

If at the present time, we want to prevent small producers from leaving their farms, all hon. members, especially those of the opposition, must help us to pass Bill C-176. We do not want to create a Santa Claus, as mentioned by the hon. member for Compton (Mr. Latulippe) a while ago, with Bill C-176.

One cannot give right and left. I say to the hon. member for Compton that, if such a thing were possible, I would be the first to go to his place to buy some furniture, and I hope that he would give it to me! When you call on us, you will talk in the same way as you have been doing in the House this afternoon. And you may be sure that, if I visit your riding, I will say the same thing that I have been saying in the House this afternoon, because I am anxious for the farmers of Frontenac County to be able to stay on their farms.

You want us to regress. There was a time when any farmer could go to the village or the city to sell his products, but times have changed and the marketing of agricultural products is no longer the same. Purchasers and consumers no longer want to buy the same products in the same forms, and that is exactly why the government of Canada is presently trying to give the farmers some means of marketing their products.

As the need for marketing services grows between producers and retailers, the role of middleman is filled by brokers, wholesalers and packers. They buy the products from farmers, group them and treat them. That is precisely what we want to give Canadian farmers: the possibility of selling their products, not individually, but in groups, through a system of co-operatives.

A while ago, the hon. member said that co-operatives have not solved any farming problems. On the contrary; to my mind, co-operatives in our areas gave farmers an instrument through which they got rid of their surplus production. The hon. member also said that the farmers do not want Bill C-176. Now, I can say that the Quebec C.F.U. have met us on various occasions. They did so when Bill C-176 was studied in committee, and if the hon. member is honest he will admit that those people want this bill passed, that they are clamoring for it, a complete bill and not part of a bill as the hon. member wants, because such a bill would then apply to a particular area or to a particular product.

It seems to me that at present the C.F.U. and the co-operatives—